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SPORTS
SERIES

BABY DOLL:
"DUSTY RHODES IS A LOSER!"

47727  Dec. 1986
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Rock 'n' Roll Revival:
MORTON AND GIBSON
REGAIN THE NWA
WORLD TAG TITLE!

ROBERT GIBSON

RICK MORTON

Lex Luger Must See The Light:
IT'S TIME TO LEAVE
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Hulk Hogan vs. Adrian Adonis:
THE MATCH THAT
DISGRACED THE
WWF TITLE



Scott Hall Takes Aim At Col. DeBeers:
THE BIG MAN'S BIGGEST TEST YET



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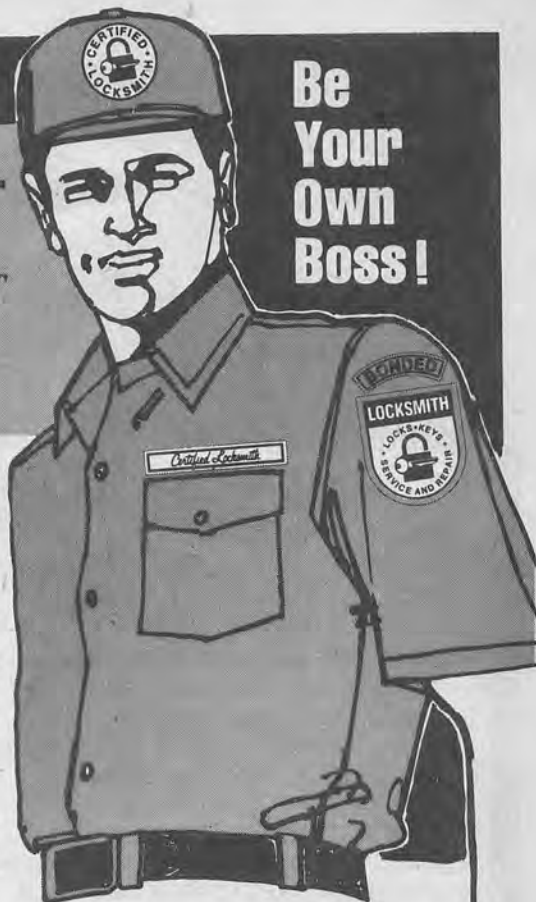
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INSIDE

Wrestling

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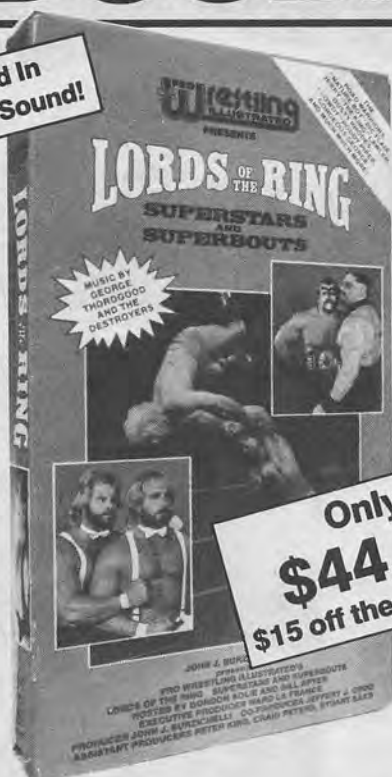
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Cover photos:
Rock 'n' Rolls by
Craig Peters
Hogan vs. Adonis by
David Fitzgerald

INSIDE WRESTLING is published monthly by G.C. London Publishing Corp., Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Single copy price \$1.75. Annual subscription rate \$21.00. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope, bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine can be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher. All rights reserved.

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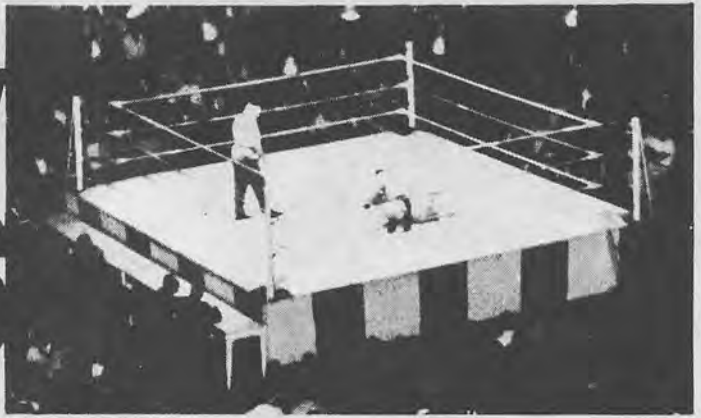
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SINCERELY YOURS

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NOT FOND OF EDDIE

My comments on Eddie Ellner's "The Insider" in the September 1986 issue of *Inside Wrestling*.

Things I'm Sick Of Seeing: Eddie Ellner's name in print and underneath that, the malodorous words that come from his spiteful little fingers.

Things I Have Seen: Evidence that, in spite of the incredible din of fan support at ringside and the continued silliness of Ric Flair and others, The Rock 'n' Roll Express proves itself



Rick Morton and Robert Gibson play catch with Ivan Koloff. Lisa Daly is a loyal supporter of The Rock 'n' Roll Express who despises the views of columnist Eddie Ellner.

time and again, whether wrestling as a tag team or singly. They are athletes and wrestlers of the highest caliber, and should not be judged by how much fan support they receive or how "cute" they are, but by their wrestling abilities. And I believe that their record speaks for itself.

Yes, they are fan favorites, and yes, they respect and oblige their fans, but who is to say that it isn't working?

Things I Hope To See: The last of that pompous feeble-minded swamp gas weenie, Eddie Ellner, whose writing, to me, is about as appealing as a thumbscrew.

LISA DALY
Washington, NJ

THE MACHINE IS BROKEN

I am furious. The WWF and Vince McMahon have gone too far this time. While watching a Saturday evening WWF broadcast, I was informed by McMahon that I was soon to see a "new" team recently "discovered" by Gene Okerlund in Japan. This "new" team turned out to be the Machines!

Any casual reader of your magazine could have told Mr. Okerlund or Mr. McMahon that the Machines are not a new team to American wrestling fans. In fact, I found some information about The Machines in your January 1986 edition. Kind of reminds you of another "discovery" by the WWF, The Missing Link, doesn't it?

But the WWF didn't stop there. They went on to say that The Giant Machine was not Andre the Giant! Again, your magazine informed us that Andre the Giant (recently suspended by the WWF) was indeed wrestling in Japan, wearing a Strong Machine mask! Besides that, anyone with an age or I.Q. above two could have told an obviously uninformed WWF that The Giant Machine's enormous size and voice can mean only one thing: Andre the Giant and The Giant Machine are indeed one and the same man!

This incident, if nothing else, further proves two things: Vince McMahon



The Giant Machine charade has insulted the intelligence of some WWF fans, including Tina Re. Tina is certain that the Giant Machine is, in fact, Andre the Giant.

cares nothing about the fans, whom he regards as nothing less than garbage, and that he only cares about one thing: the almighty dollar.

TINA RE
Colonia, NJ

WAS HE SERIOUS?

I've just finished reading the "Hotseat" interview with Verne Gagne in the October 1986 issue of *Inside Wrestling*. Where does Gagne get off saying that the World Class title "is truly not a title a lot of people take seriously?"

Now that Stan Hansen no longer has the AWA title, I have not seen him active on any AWA broadcasts.

(Continued on page 49)

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Peter
King

Editor-in-Chief

Under the reign of Vince McMahon, the WWF has been compared to a machinelike juggernaut destroying all weak competition. Whether this is an apt description or an overblown exaggeration will be decided in forthcoming years. But there is a machinelike juggernaut currently in the WWF—the wrestler under the strange mask calling himself Giant Machine.

Of course, Giant Machine is Andre the Giant. Everyone admits this (except the WWF TV announcers, whose stupidity we hope is amply rewarded by Boss Vince). But Gorilla Monsoon's honesty isn't a concern here. Call me an old softy, but I've come to praise Andre the Giant Machine.

When Andre was suspended by WWF President Jack Tunney, he packed his bags and headed for Japan. In Japan, Andre returned to the guidance of famed manager Wakamatsu, who had previously given Andre a Machine mask and the name Giant Machine. It's been well-known to wrestling observers for the past few years that Andre was on the verge of a giant burnout. Reaching the twilight of his fabulous career, the Giant was becoming frustrated that he had never won a major title. Headed for disaster, he has instead been reborn.

While in Japan, Andre wrestled exclusively as Giant Machine. Somehow, this seemed to revitalize both the man and his career. After about a month, he contacted Lou Albano and told him he wanted to come back to the U.S. He also told Albano that Andre the Giant was no more.

Anyway, the point is this. Andre really doesn't exist anymore. He truly has become the Giant Machine. His maneuvers are crisp and precise, and he is wrestling better than he ever has. He is a joy to behold. The only thing bothering me is that a certain balding WWF champion has also put on a mask and is attempting to cash in on Andre's idea. Now, if we could only see a match between Giant Machine and Hulk Machine!

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by Stu
Saks

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How do I know this? Trust me. Just trust me. It has to be.

Never in the history of the great sport of wrestling has there been so much activity among so many major titles in such a short time. It's incredible. Within the span of 101 days, the three top titles in the AWA changed hands, the three top titles in the NWA changed hands, and ... well, can the WWF be far behind?

Let's take a look at the 101 days that changed the course of wrestling.

May 17, 1986—Playboy Buddy Rose and Doug Somers defeat Scott Hall & Curt Hennig (win AWA World tag team title). I still don't understand. Probably never will. The title changed hands when the referee counted Hall out of the ring! How could that be? As far as I know, the AWA adheres to the standard rules for title changes: The only way a title can change hands is by pinfall or submission. The AWA's official explanation went no further than to say that titles can change hands "on certain types of countouts." Oh? Like when the challenger rams the champion's head into the ringpost, rendering him unconscious? That's what happened here. By the AWA's logic, it is more honorable for a champion to leave the ring when he's in trouble and return to the dressing room. Nick Bockwinkel did that through his earlier title reigns and was never penalized. More on the AWA's decision-making process to come.

(Continued on page 56)

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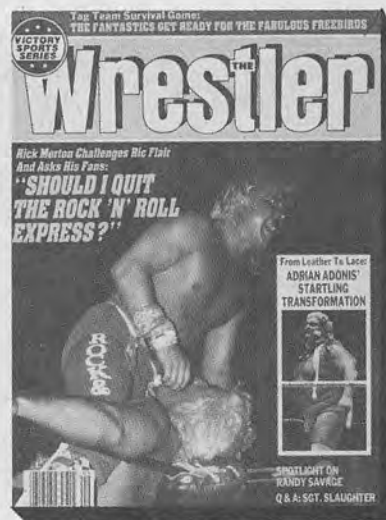
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ALL RIGHT, CLASS, pull up your chairs and sit right down. Calm down, keep quiet, and put those comic books away. It's time for a history lesson, courtesy of today's substitute teacher, Col. DeBeers.

And you're probably not going to like what you hear.

I caught up with DeBeers recently in New Jersey after he had achieved a non-title pinfall victory over AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel. For some time, now, I've been wanting to talk with DeBeers regarding his past and his controversial political views. In Jersey, I got a little more than I bargained for.

A brief discussion with DeBeers about his title match with Bockwinkel quickly led into some talk about DeBeers' past.

"My father was an important force in the Nationalist Afrikaner Party, which was brought into power in South Africa in 1949," DeBeers explained. "The platform that the party stood for was that of apartheid—of racial segregation. Even the prime minister at the time, Prime Minister Strijdom, placed it clearly on the line. He said it like this: 'Either the white man dominates, or the black man takes over.' It's as simple as that.



Col. DeBeers vs. Nick Bockwinkel

"Look, let's face it," DeBeers told me, "there is a race war going on in the world right now, and the Afrikaners are on the front lines. Racial segregation is a fact of life. It's not only in South Africa, it's everywhere. It's in your own backyard! If you live in an all-white neighborhood, tell me the chances of a black family moving in next door. None. Why? The whites don't want the blacks, and the blacks don't want the whites. All apartheid does is place into legal terms what every man feels in his gut anyway."

ON THE ROAD

with
CRAIG PETERS

I argued that DeBeers' opinion was totally absurd. True, there is a race war—which seems ready to explode in South Africa—but it's because blacks there are simply demanding the basic human rights that Afrikaner whites have denied them for so long. Indeed, not only blacks, but other nonwhites, including Indians and mixed-blood Coloureds, have been pushed into the worst hovels of South African towns to live. They've been denied access to public transportation. Denied voting rights. Denied the right to strike. Denied education. And unlike the move for civil rights in the U.S. in the '60s, South African blacks have no recourse in the legal system—South African laws uphold apartheid in most cases.

"I don't have to argue in favor of something that should be the natural order of things," DeBeers countered. "Let's face it: If you look at any major city in the country today, what are the sources of that city's problems? Blacks. Their apartment buildings are in complete disrepair, they have no respect for their neighbors, the blacks are the cause of the majority of the crime, the majority of the drug use, the majority of the fear.

"Let me bring this back closer to where wrestling fans might be able to understand," DeBeers continued. "You know something about wrestling, this rock and wrestling connection? Well, I've heard all about these rock stars saying that they don't want to play Sun City. Great. If they want to turn their backs on the American free enterprise system and deprive themselves of money and profit, that's their business.

"But there's something else that's been in the news a lot lately," DeBeers continued, "and that's the violence that's bred at rap music concerts featuring black stars with black audiences. It happened in New York, where black youths went on a crime rampage after a Run-D.M.C. concert in Madison Square Garden. It happened in Los Angeles, again at a Run-D.M.C. concert, where blacks were stabbing each other—not a bad way for them to go, by the way, let 'em kill each other off, that way we don't have to dirty our own hands with the job.

"But you must look at the evidence: Get a lot of blacks together in one place, and you've got trouble. You don't see those kinds of crimes and stabbings following a Beach Boys concert, do you? And the Beach Boys play concerts annually in Washington, D.C., that draw hundreds of thousands of people at once, not the 10 or 15 thousand people that Run-D.M.C. draws. That's just more evidence of the problem."

By this point I was speechless. I simply couldn't believe the depths of DeBeers' racism. This man makes Archie Bunker look like a liberal civil rights activist. I turned off my tape recorder and got up, disgusted at what I was hearing. As I turned my back on him to leave, DeBeers' poisoned words followed:

"Go ahead, leave, close your ears to the truth," he taunted. "It doesn't matter, you're just like the rest of them. You're not a real white man anyway. When the war explodes, you'll be the first to go. You're nothing but the scum of the human race."

Coming from a man like DeBeers, that's quite a compliment. □

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NAMES MAKING

Magnum T.A. has done a pretty good job of keeping a positive front since losing the series for the United States championship to **Nikita Koloff**, but don't believe what you see in the ring or during interviews. The Magnum T.A. I saw during a recent exclusive interview was depressed, distraught, and embarrassed.

Two days after Nikita won the series, four matches to three, I flew down to Charlotte to speak with Magnum. As you will recall, Magnum was angry with me a few months ago because, on an edition of "Pro Wrestling Illustrated Scouting Reports," I took exception to his attack on NWA President **Bob Geigel**. Because of that incident,



MAGNUM T.A.

Geigel stripped Magnum of the U.S. belt and the series was born. But Magnum and I have since reconciled and now maintain a healthy professional relationship. Recently, we had dinner at a local Charlotte eatery.

"I can't believe I let this happen, Bill," whispered Magnum. "I feel as if I've let down my fans and the entire country." Suddenly, I thought I was talking to **Gerry Cooney** after his



MISSY HYATT

loss to **Larry Holmes**. The voice, the tone, almost every word was exactly the same. "This is something that I'll never live down," Magnum continued. "Imagine, the U.S. title in the hands of a Russian, and it's my fault."

Magnum will have sufficient opportunity for redemption. Nikita and T.A. have already been signed to numerous matches around the country, and it has been rumored that the two will tour the Soviet Union at some time. "Kremlin officials have contacted us," said an NWA insider, "but we're not sure if we'd want to go along with such a plan. They're very proud of Nikita, and they'd like to see him defend his title in his home country."

Missy Hyatt continues to raise eyebrows in the UWF. The young, beautiful, vivacious blonde merged with **Ed-die Gilbert** to form Hyatt and Hot Stuff Incorporated and rumors have been flying ever since. It seems as if there's some question about whether their association is for business purposes only. Hyatt, of course, is the girlfriend of **John Tatum**, but in a recent interview, Missy appeared to be

awfully close to Gilbert. Then, after Gilbert won a match on the same show, Hyatt climbed into the ring and planted a kiss on Eddie's lips.

Meanwhile, Gilbert and **Blade Runner Sting** have had their UWF tag team title held up because of an incident during a match against **The Fantastics**. Sting and Tommy Rogers battled outside the ring when Gilbert grabbed **Missy Hyatt's** pocketbook and hit his father, referee **Tommy Gilbert**. While Tommy tried to get the bag back from Hyatt, **Johnny Tatum** threw white powder in Rogers' face. Eddie scored the pin, but Tommy Gilbert was told what happened and the pin was ruled invalid.



KENDALL & BARRY WINDHAM

Barry Windham and **Kendall Windham** are both on the trail of **Ron Bass'** Florida belt. But Bass, who won the title from Kendall in mid-July, doesn't appear worried and, in fact, has stated his intentions to go after **Lex Luger's** Southern title. This, by the way, is the first time that Barry and Kendall have pursued the same

N' NEWS

Bill Apter
reporting...

title. Will this cause further hard feelings between the brothers? We'll have to wait and see . . . Former champion **Rick Rude** and **Buzz Sawyer** are after the World Class belt held by **Chris Adams**. Rude has had to adjust to a little less interference from manager **Percy Pringle** since losing the title and Sawyer has been wrestling better than he ever. Adams, by the way, narrowly avoided disaster when his left eye was injured in a match with **Abdullah the Butcher**.

Pick your news in the WWF. Between the **Paul Orndorff-Hulk Hogan** feud, **The Machines**, and the long-awaited return of **Rowdy Roddy Piper**, plenty is going on in Vince McMahon land. Piper recently made an appearance on "The Flower Shop" and demanded that **Adrian Adonis** give him his time slot back. Adonis refused, and then introduced Bob Orton as his new bodyguard, "Acey." This feud figures to last for a long time. Rowdy Roddy is also itching to resume his feud with former tag team partner Orndorff.



ADRIAN ADONIS

Buddy Rose and **Doug Somers** bloodied **The Midnight Rockers** in a match aired on AWA Championship Wrestling and are now archrivals. **Marty Jannetty** and **Sean Michaels** have quickly risen in stature in the AWA and have a good chance of winning the belts before the year is out. This seems to me like an attempt by Rose and Somers to slow down The Rockers, but it will probably backfire. The Rockers, and the fans, will now demand a series of matches against



ROSE & SOMERS

the champions, and in light of this incident, their request will probably be granted.

The Battle of the Belts III was scheduled for Labor Day in Orlando, Florida, with such matches as: **The Road Warriors** vs. **The Shock Troops**; **Nick Bockwinkel** vs. **Chris Champion**; **Rick Martel** vs. **Kendo Nagasaki**; **The Shepherders** vs. **The Fabulous Ones**; and **Barry Windham** vs. **Ron Bass**. This figures to be a great card and I'll have the results next month . . . **Sgt. Slaughter's**



SGT. SLAUGHTER

ter's Americas title has been declared vacant. "Slaughter has failed to live up to the quota of title defenses," announced AWA President **Stanley Blackburn**, who did not reveal plans to fill the vacancy.

Tom Zenk and **Don Kroffat** won the Canadian tag team title from **The Long Riders**, who lost the belts in their first defense after being stripped and reinstated as champions . . . **Rick Martel** is involved in a feud with **Steve Strong** . . . **Kabuki** and **Austin Idol** have invaded the Mid-Southern region . . . **The Kansas Jayhawks**—**Bobby Jagers** and **Dutch Mantel**—have been well-received by NWA fans since their mid-summer arrival . . . WWF Women's champion **The Fabulous Moolah** competed in two 30-man battle royals and won them both!

That's all for now, fans. See you at the matches. □



THE Wrestler

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June 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.

November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

February 1977/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Sammartino, Gagne.

May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.

August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.

November 1979/Stories include: Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.

July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Warriors vs. Russians, Hillbilly Jim, Rude, Lawler.

April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts.

May 1986/Stories include: Randy Savage, Stan Hansen, Rock 'n' Roll.

June 1986/Stories include: British Bulldogs, Windham-Ric Flair, Lance Von Erich, Blanchard.

July 1986/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, Magnum T.A.

August 1986/Stories include: Hogan at WrestleMania 2, Garvins, Martel, Fab Ones, Williams.

September 1986/Stories include: Rhodes & T.A., Andre, Adams, Hall, Windham, Journey vs. Maxine.

October 1986/Stories include: Flair-Lugar, Savage, Fantastics, Warriors.

INSIDE WRESTLING

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THE INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner

[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on this magazine.]

NEWS ITEM: Ric Flair regains the NWA title.

Four days after Dusty Rhodes defeated Ric Flair for the belt, Tyrone Chase of Bowie, Maryland, wrote, asking if I would still call Flair the greatest wrestler



Ric Flair restored my faith in wrestling by regaining the belt from The Bleached Whale, Dusty Rhodes.

of all time. Even when Flair *had* the title I never called him the greatest wrestler of all time. That province I have reserved for Don Leo Jonathan, who, despite having never captured a world championship, I still feel was the greatest athlete to ever lace up a pair of boots.

Tyrone's letter forced my hand, though. How was I to reconcile the fact that Ric Flair—a wrestler!

certainly respected—could lose his NWA title to Dusty "If It's Free I'll Eat It" Rhodes? Did Rhodes' victory completely undermine my abilities as a wrestling analyst? I've never kept my loathing of the Fat Man a secret, but could I have misjudged him so badly? Was there actually a competent wrestler hiding beneath the gargantuan tiers of fat? Who knows how many wrestlers were lurking under Dusty's baggage.

Fortunately, before I could get on with the business of a pro-Dusty column, the Bleached Whale did me the favor of losing the crown back to Flair, proving his very victory to be a fluke. How very typical of him. NWA-champion-Dusty-Rhodes is such a foul succession of words that I was, for a time, unable to say them without gagging. Now, both the honor of the title and my own

prestige have been re-established.

Thank you Dusty, for again proving how utterly incompetent you really are.

NEWS ITEM: Baby Doll leaves Dusty Rhodes for Ric Flair.

Because of my own problems I've had within personal relationships, I noted the demise of the Baby Doll-Dusty Rhodes association with barely a dry eye. This was one of the century's most torrid love affairs, eclipsing such famous *tete-a-tetes* as King Kong and Fay Wray, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, and Flipper and Helga the Sea Walrus.

I never thought Dusty and Baby Doll would leave each other for the simple reason that I couldn't imagine anyone else with their faculties intact finding either of them attractive. In their

(Continued on page 20)



Here's a pair we won't have to stomach any longer. Dusty Rhodes' short-lived affair with Baby Doll was one of the most despicable relationships I've ever witnessed.

1000 TINY MAGNETS

Fantastic fun bargain. Do tricks, stunts, experiments. Arrange in millions of patterns. Stick together with iron powder. Easy to change. Each 1/8x1/8x1/16".

2008. 1000 Magnets \$2.50



Drinking Helmet

The Double-Header. All hands free drinking! Sip your favorite beverages, "stereo." Ideal for ball games, golf course, just about anywhere. In rugged red plastic with 2 side drink holders & flexible vinyl straw. Adjustable fit.

910 Drinking Helmet \$9.98



Secret Whoopee Noisemaker

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Smoke Grenades

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2011 Smoke Grenades, 12 for \$3.50



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7 1/2" open - 4" closed. Features special safety lock to prevent accidental closing.

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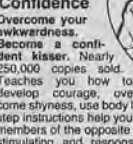
8072 Sportsman's Knife \$3.98



How To Kiss With Confidence

Overcome your awkwardness. Become a confident kisser. Nearly 250,000 copies sold. Teaches you how to develop courage, overcome shyness, use body language. Step-by-step instructions help you communicate with members of the opposite sex, develop more stimulating and responsible relationships. With pictures.

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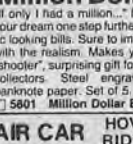
5601 Million Dollar Bills \$2.98



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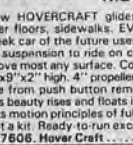
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Motorized Sub-Machine Water Gun

The Water Hawk is fully automatic, high powered, low priced, heavy duty. Fires off dozens of rounds up to 30 ft. with just a single pull of the trigger. Refillable ammo clip slips in & out quickly. One hand use allows you excellent mobility. Requires 4 "AA" batteries. Only 12 1/2" x 7 1/2" x 2 1/2".

6640 Water Hawk \$1.95

Lifetime Guarantee

Deluxe Mini Lock Blade

Opens quickly and locks into position. Prevents blade from snapping shut. Fine quality steel is razor sharp and holds its edge. Excellent for outdoor work, fishing, hunting or emergencies. Only 5 1/2" open. 2 1/2" closed. For \$4.95.

2093 Mini Lock Blade \$3.50

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2053 Smoke Bombs, 24 for \$4.98



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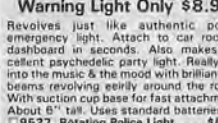
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Revolves just like authentic police emergency light. Attach to car roof or dashboard in seconds. Also makes excellent psychedelic party light. Really get into the music & the mood with brilliant red beams revolving eerily around the room. With suction cup base for fast attachment. About 6" tall. Uses standard batteries.

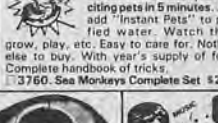
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LIVE SEA MONKEYS

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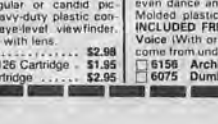
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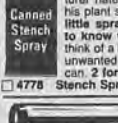
2112 Hercules Wrist Band \$1.98



BE 2" TALLER INSTANTLY

Improve your appearance, confidence. Look bigger, stronger. Slip into any shoe. Invisible, comfortable.

4027 Pair \$4.98



STINK SPRAY

Stench so pungent the manufacturer hates to make it because his plant stinks for days. Just a little spray, everybody wants to know who did it. We can't think of a better way to get rid of unwanted guests. 4 oz. spray can. 2 for \$5.98; 3 for \$7.98.

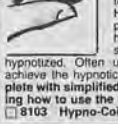
4077 Stench Spray \$3.50



Pocket Spy Telescope

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6724 Spy Scope \$2.98



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Pucker Gum. Pktd.

2738 Pkg. of 5 75c

Red Hot Gum. Blazing.

2724 Pkg. of 5 75c

Garlic Gum. Awful.

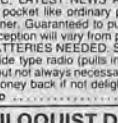
2736 Pkg. of 5 75c



Deluxe Surprise Package

Pleasant surprise and bargain. Includes new samples, factory surplus, special novelties, etc. Most worth much more.

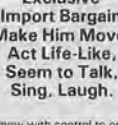
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HYPNOTIC COIN

Fascinating pocket-size invention. The whirling, spiraling "vortex" action of the HYPNOTIC COIN is purported to capture and hold the attention of subjects until they are hypnotized. Often used by hypnotists to achieve the hypnotic "sleep" quickly. Complete with simplified instructions explaining how to use the Hypno-Coin.

8103 Hypno-Coin (2 for \$2.25) \$1.25



Motorized Sub-Machine Water Gun

The Water Hawk is fully automatic, high powered, low priced, heavy duty. Fires off dozens of rounds up to 30 ft. with just a single pull of the trigger. Refillable ammo clip slips in & out quickly. One hand use allows you excellent mobility. Requires 4 "AA" batteries. Only 12 1/2" x 7 1/2" x 2 1/2".

6640 Water Hawk \$1.95



NINJA SOFT-STARS

Ninja practice star made of rubber. 5 inches across the points. Created by high ranked Ninja instructor.

2511 Soft-Stars (Set of 2) \$2.98

2510 Soft-Star Case \$1.98



WATER MACHINE GUN

Shoots over 100 rapid fire rounds. Up to 30 ft. range. Greatest advancement for water "wars" in history. Holds about 5-oz. Pump action allows faster, harder hitting blasts. Authentic military style. About 10".

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Sleek Fingertip Lockblade

Finger fitting grip makes this a real find of cutting power. With 4 1/2" mirror polished razor sharp stainless steel blade, finger guard protection. Light weight, anti breakage. Black plastic handle with shiny metal trim. Smooth opening. Locks firmly into position to prevent accidental closing.

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LOUD cracks like steel gun. Used by trainers, cowboys. 4-ply. Hand made. Loop handle. Approx. 5 ft. long.

8762 Whip \$5.98



Leather Fingerless Gloves

Soft & supple leather. Velcro wrist strap. Guaranteed to fit tightly.

3512 Gloves (pair) \$3.98



Commando Survival Knife

Similar to knives used by Special Forces. Designed for toughest jobs. Use as knife, saw, hammer, hatchet, fish scaler. 5 1/2" tempered steel blade. Razor sharp. Back of blade has sharp saw teeth. Laminated leather handle for positive grip. Stitched & riveted genuine leather sheath with leg ties. Sharpening stone included.

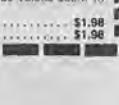
8420 Commando Knife \$11.98



Jackpot Slot Machine Bank

Las Vegas replica. Pays real jackpot. Authentic action. Smooth operation. Accepts pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters. All metal construction with chrome plated front. Holds approximately \$20. 8 1/2" x 4 1/2" x 2 1/2".

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THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 18)

repulsiveness they formed the perfect couple.

Now, if you don't think Flair, who routinely dines and courts the world's most beautiful women, has an ulterior motive in taking up with Baby Doll, then I have an Uncle Fittapaldi who would like to talk to you about some oceanfront property in South Dakota.

NEWS ITEM: The Rock 'n' Roll Express recapture the NWA tag team title.

It was bound to happen. Jim Cornette, an otherwise brilliant tactician, gets flustered by a vehemently pro-Rock 'n' Roll Express crowd, commits several strategic miscalculations, and costs The Midnight Express the title. I was in Philadelphia the night of the title exchange and couldn't believe it when Cornette let Dennis Condrey fight most of the third and decisive fall. Anyone, even one of the Rock 'n' Roll's idiot fans, could tell that Condrey was dragging his feet through most of the second fall and needed time to recover.

However, Cornette was infected by the screaming throng that verbally attacked him throughout the match and lost his train of thought. An unforgivable error in so important a match and one that could not go unnoticed. A fresh Ricky Morton overpowered Condrey and small-packaged him for the victory.

Judged by the ensuing uproar, one would have thought America had won the war, or at the very least had turned back Godzilla before he could invade Philadelphia. All the nitwits in bandanas, R & R Express T-shirts, and other overpriced regalia hugged on to each other for dear life, transmitting unimaginably sick and genetically damaging germs.

One woman sitting much too close to me acutally swooned into a dead faint, a look of utter rhapsody on her face. One elderly man danced a victory jig until he slumped into his chair exhausted. I am still working out the kinks in my plan to rid the world of The Rock 'n' Roll Express, and after

witnessing the Philadelphia debacle, I am ever so convinced of the vitality of my mission. Morton and Gibson must be stopped, lest they turn the entire country into a gaggle of brain dead clones. Stay tuned for important details.

NEWS ITEM: Nikita Koloff defeats Magnum T.A., 4-3, in their best-of-seven series.

So often in wrestling the superior athlete fails to negotiate his way to victory. As the Koloff-



Nikita Koloff had to overcome tremendous prejudice on the part of American officials to win the best-of-seven U.S. title series from Magnum T.A.

Magnum series wound to its stunning conclusion, I feared that some contrived event—a controversy, a bribed official, some external interference—would give the deciding match to Magnum.

Thankfully, this did not happen. Nikita Koloff is clearly one of the country's foremost athletes and, his politics notwithstanding, deserves to be the U.S. champion.

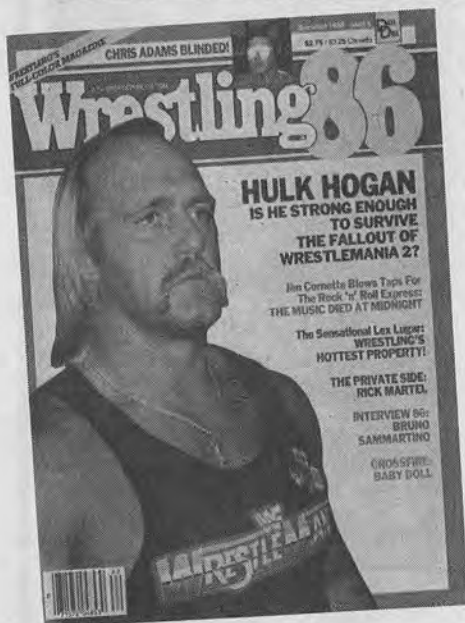
I congratulate him on his triumph. □



The Midnight Express could blame manager Jim Cornette for their loss, but they won't. They'll take the defeat in stride and beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express the next time out.

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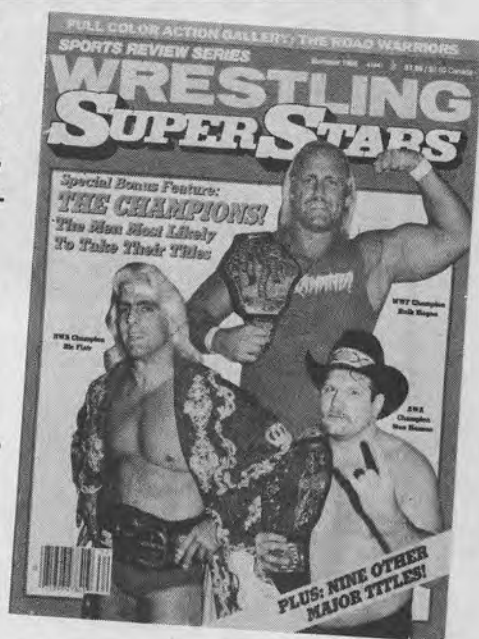
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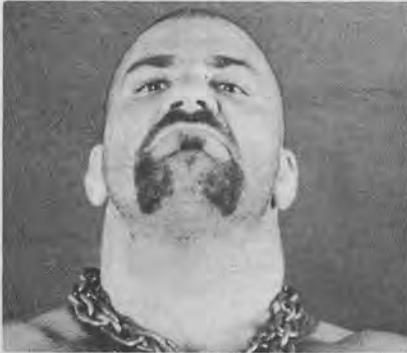
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PHILADELPHIA, PA By Edward McGovern



**NIKITA KOLOFF
vs.
MAGNUM T.A.**



With their U.S. title series tied at three, Koloff and Magnum met for what could have been the deciding match. NWA President Bob Geigel was special guest referee for the match, which saw neither man gain a clear advantage. Finally, after about 15 minutes, both wrestlers engaged in a wild brawl that spilled outside the ring. Geigel counted out both men, but the action didn't stop there. After the bell, The Kansas Jayhawks, Ivan Koloff, Krusher Khrushchev, and others joined in and it took almost five minutes to restore order.

OTHER BOUTS: The Rock 'n' Roll Express defeated The Midnight Express for the NWA tag team title ... Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev drew with The Kansas Jayhawks ... Wahoo McDaniel pinned Baron Von Raschke ... Dick Murdoch beat Steve Regal.

ROCHESTER, NY By Tim Stamp



**HULK HOGAN
vs.
THE IRON SHEIK**



Three of the four WWF titles were on the line at the War Memorial Auditorium. In the main event, for the WWF World title, Sheik attacked Hogan before the bell rang and strangled him with his turban. The action moved outside the ring, where Hogan was rammed into the timekeeper's table. After the wrestlers returned to the ring, Hogan took control until Sheik kicked and suplexed him. Then, Sheik rammed Hogan's head into his boot and drew blood. Hogan came back with a suplex and took the pin after battering Sheik with his own boot.

OTHER BOUTS: Lanny Poffo beat Iron Mike Sharpe ... S.D. Jones defeated Les Thornton ... Cowboy Lange beat Lord Littlebrook ... Rick Steamboat pinned Mr. Fuji in a kung-fu match ... Fabulous Moolah beat Velvet McIntyre ... Junkyard Dog beat Randy Savage by disqualification.

ST. PAUL, MN By Paul Jacobs

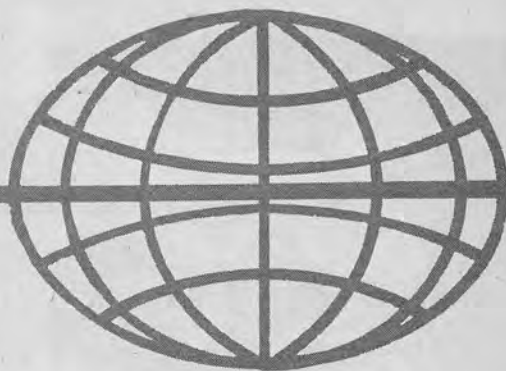


**SCOTT LeDOUX
vs.
LARRY ZBYSZKO**



The most unusual match on a strong card of wrestling at the St. Paul Civic Center was a one-punch confrontation between these two AWA archrivals, in which blows would be exchanged punch-for-punch. Zbyszko had the first punch but was unable to knock out LeDoux. Then, it was LeDoux's turn, but Zbyszko refused to stand still for the punch and was disqualified as a result. **OTHER BOUTS:** The Midnight Rockers won by disqualification over Buddy Rose & Doug Somers ... Nick Bockwinkel pinned Nord the Barbarian ... Boris Zukhov, Ali Khan, & Shiek Adnan Al-Kaissie defeated Greg Gagne and Curt Hennig when Hennig and Gagne's partner, Jerry Blackwell, didn't make it to St. Paul due to a delayed flight ... Col. DeBeers defeated Scott Hall by disqualification ... Steve Olsonowski pinned Alaskan II.

WRESTLING CAPITALS



ATLANTA, GA By Jason Holbrook



**RIC FLAIR
vs.
DUSTY RHODES**



Flair, who recently regained the NWA World title, defended the belt against the former champion in a best two-out-of-three falls match at The Omni. Rhodes won the first fall and Flair came back to win the second. In the third and deciding fall, Rhodes maneuvered Flair into a backslide, but the referee was distracted by Baby Doll. Flair whipped Rhodes into the turnbuckle. Dusty came charging out of the corner to attempt a clothesline, but the champion ducked and Rhodes hit the referee, earning a disqualification.

OTHER BOUTS: The Road Warriors & Paul Ellering defeated The Andersons & Tully Blanchard ... Jimmy Valiant defeated Paul Jones ... Buddy Landell beat Todd Champion ... Bill Dundee defeated Sam Houston ... Manny Fernandez beat Teijho Khan ... The Warlord won by disqualification over Konga the Barbarian.

NEW YORK, NY By Kevin McBozak



**RANDY SAVAGE
vs.
PEDRO MORALES**



Savage defended his Intercontinental title at Madison Square Garden against two-time former I-C champion Morales. Pedro almost pinned Savage on two occasions but missed the three-count by a fraction of a second. Savage knocked Morales out of the ring and executed a double axe-handle off the ropes. Upon contact, though, Savage was more stunned than Morales and was counted out.

OTHER BOUTS: Paul Orndorff pinned Cpl. Kirchner ... Adrian Adonis defeated Tony Atlas ... Nick Kiniski beat Les Thornton ... Billy Jack Haynes defeated Hercules Hernandez ... King Kong Bundy & John Studd won by disqualification over The Super Machine & The Big Machine ... The Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff defeated Dan Spivey & Mike Rotundo ... The British Bulldogs defeated Jimmy Jack & Hoss Funk ... Jake Roberts beat Siva Afi.

MONTREAL, QUEBEC By Bill Marchesin



**SHERRI MARTEL
vs.
CANDI DIVINE**



Martel defended her AWA women's championship against former champion Candi Divine in the Montreal Forum. The challenger quickly dragged Martel to the mat with a series of armdrags and bodyslams. Martel retaliated with punches and kicks and climbed the ropes. Divine picked her off and bodyslammed her to the canvas. Candi then delivered a flying bodypress, but Martel's experience showed as she reversed the maneuver and covered the challenger for the three-count.

OTHER BOUTS: Abdullah the Butcher defeated Man Mountain Moore ... Rick Martel beat Steve Strong ... The Long Riders defeated Tom Zenk & Dan Kroffat for the vacant Canadian tag team title ... Dino Bravo defeated The Great Samu by disqualification ... Alofa beat Sheik Ali ... Gino Brito Jr. & Ron Ritchie defeated Bob Delaserra & Ray Dube.



Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**

CHARLOTTE, NC: I can't help it. Every time Baby Doll comes to mind, I just keep on thinking about milk that's been left out in the bright, burning sun for hours on a 96-degree summer day, the fresh, wholesome, healthy, delicious, pure white liquid turning sour, putrid, bane, and off-color, unfit for consumption. I'm reminded of old girl friends who turned out to be something less than what they claimed to be, and then I say to myself, "Brock, you fool, at your age, why are you still falling for a broad's tricks?" I have no answer. All I know is that I sat in this little dive of a bar for hours after witnessing The Crime, torn between anger at my own naivete and anger at Baby Doll for doing what she did, downing one glass after another until I no longer felt the pain. It took a while. I've embarrassed myself, I admit. Last month, in this very same space, the following words appeared: "In this reporter's eyes, Baby Doll has earned her spot in the

mat sport." I can't make those words disappear, but I can rescind them and try to atone for my remarks, so try this on for size: Baby Doll turning on Dusty Rhodes, one of the bravest men to ever grace this great sport, was the most reprehensible incident I have ever witnessed. Baby Doll has proven herself to be the equal of a \$50-a-shot streetwalker who has totally lost any sense of decency and respect for herself. Ric Flair should take heed.

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY: Rowdy Roddy Piper is back, so maybe the WWF can be saved after all, although I just can't imagine the guy remaining a fan favorite for too long. Let's face it, Piper is a fine wrestler, but I don't think I've ever seen a man so unstable and so prone to just exploding on a dime. Piper had every right to be angry with Adonis for stealing his show, but he certainly couldn't have been stupid enough to believe that Abominable Adrian would just give up "The Flower Shop" when he returned. This just isn't a realistic viewpoint, although, of course, Piper isn't exactly a realist. Personally, I would like nothing better than to see "The Flower Shop" tossed right off the air and deposited into some Christopher Street garbage bin, but that's not about to happen. It's going to take a long time for the WWF to realize that wrestling is not the place for a "man" to flaunt his sexual preference. But for now, we have what I would call the first-ever, full-fledged TV segment feud in the sport's history, two guys fighting over something that has very little to do with wrestling. I would prefer that nobody wins this one, because I could also do without "Piper's Pit." Rowdy Roddy is much too good a wrestler to waste his time with talk shows. I suspect that he'll want to resume his feud with former partner Paul Orndorff, and might even try to enlist the services of Hulk Hogan somewhere along the way. If he remains a fan favorite, of course, and I wouldn't bet on that, either.



DUSTY RHODES & BABY DOLL

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

TOKYO, JAPAN: In search of . . . Stan Hansen. But this place brings back memories of The Big One, when I was a field reporter in London and occasionally put on special assignment to Japan. I've always tried to retain my objectivity as a reporter, but I, for one, have *not* forgotten Pearl Harbor and will never forgive the Japs for their merciless kamikaze attacks on our enlisted men. Bleeding heart liberals can say all they want about how we didn't have to bomb Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but how many Americans' lives would have been wasted if we didn't put an end to the war? I walk the streets and the noise of gunfire and bombs exploding hurtles through my brain, like a forgotten nightmare that

suddenly rears its ugly head. I see vendors, and geisha houses, and rice shops. I hate rice. I hate this country. But give the people credit—they love wrestling, and the shows they put on here are some of the best in the world. Stan Hansen, the ex-AWA champion, was supposedly working in Japan, but my connections inform me that he's returned to the states for a few days. Apparently, I'll have to wait a few days to get the whole story behind the AWA title change, but I can't stay here another hour. I see a large, familiar looking Japanese man walking down the streets, but I can't place the face. I turn to follow him a few blocks and the memories come pouring back. After about five minutes, he turns around and gives me this piercing stare. Mitsu Arakawa lives.

HONOLULU, HI: It's been a tough month and I deserve this. Besides, Honolulu is on the way back from Japan and my Super Saver allows me to stop over free of charge, so my editor certainly won't mind. You step off the plane in this city and immediately feel rejuvenated. It must be the sea air, but it's probably the women. The women here really know how to make a man feel like a man. Sitting by the pool, they wait over you hand and foot, serving cold drinks and giving deep, soothing massages. American women, with their independent minds and desire for a career, can take a lesson from these Hawaiian ladies. But there's not much time for relaxation. I'm here for a reason and this time, it's "A Big Night at Aloha Stadium." Unfortunately, it rained for a few hours before the first match, which kept the crowd down. Some of the best wrestlers in the world were on the card, but the most intriguing match was a cage bout for the Polynesian championship between Lars Anderson and Superfly Tui. Anderson won when Tui climbed to the top of the 16-foot chain link fence and tried to imitate Jimmy Snuka's famous "Superfly." It didn't work. Tui bailed out about half way through his jump and came down with a hard thud. When Anderson rolled on top of him for the pin, I breathed a sigh of relief that the match was over. Wrestling at its finest. Goodbye, Honolulu! □



STAN HANSEN

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



TERRY FUNK

After suffering an injury during a tag team match against Tito Santana and Junkyard Dog at WrestleMania 2, Funk hit the road to Hollywood once again. Several years ago he appeared in the Sylvester Stallone

film *Paradise Alley*, and now has a feature part in a new Stallone film based on arm-wrestling. Terry has accepted some matches in Puerto Rico and will soon return to the WWF.



BUTCH REED

Reed was hoping to jump to the WWF, but negotiations did not pan out. He then received, and accepted, a lucrative offer from NWA promoters to keep him in the Central States area. Reed is especially anxious

to find a tag team partner to help him cut down the team of Superstar Bill Dundee and Buddy Landell, both of whom will be working regularly in the Central States.



ROCKY JOHNSON

Once one of the most popular wrestlers in the WWF, Johnson is now one of the stars of California Championship Wrestling Association and uses the hit song "Soul Man" as his theme. Rocky is also wrestling regular-

ly in Hawaii in both singles and tag team matches. Johnson has been teaming with another former WWF wrestler, "Superfly" Jimmy Snuka, in tag matches on the West Coast.



JERRY BRISCO

A three-time co-holder of the NWA World tag team championship with older brother Jack, Jerry has retired from active wrestling. After finishing his career in the World Wrestling Federation, Jerry became involved

in the promotional end of the sport for the WWF. "I have no plans to get back into competition," insists Jerry. "I enjoy the business end of wrestling immensely."

INSIDE WRESTLING

125

CAPSULE PROFILE

KNOwn AS "The Rowdy Scot," Roddy Piper has displayed toughness and brawling ability that has made him one of the most feared competitors in the sport ("You want to step in the ring with me? Ha! You'll have to pay the Piper, brother!") ... Stands 6'2½" and weighs 231 pounds ... Born in Glasgow, Scotland, and was raised in Scotland, Australia, and Canada ("I am pure gypsy!") ... Discovered as an amateur in Manitoba, Canada, by former AWA World champion Verne Gagne ("I have just as many amateur skills as the next guy—move over and let me wrestle the next guy!") ... His pro debut took place in Winnipeg when he was only 16 years old against Larry Hennig ("I only weighed 167 pounds; Hennig was 173 pounds heavier than me, and he pinned me in 10 seconds!") ... After bulking up, began amassing a winning record throughout the U.S. ... Hired as the regular color commentator for *Georgia Championship Wrestling* on Atlanta SuperStation WTBS ("It is the viewers' pleasure to have me in their homes each week!") ... That experience no doubt helped him land the "Piper's Pit" television segment when he moved to the WWF area in early 1984 ... Was voted 1984's Most Hated Wrestler of the Year ... A centerpiece of the first *WrestleMania* card in 1985, Piper teamed with Paul Or-

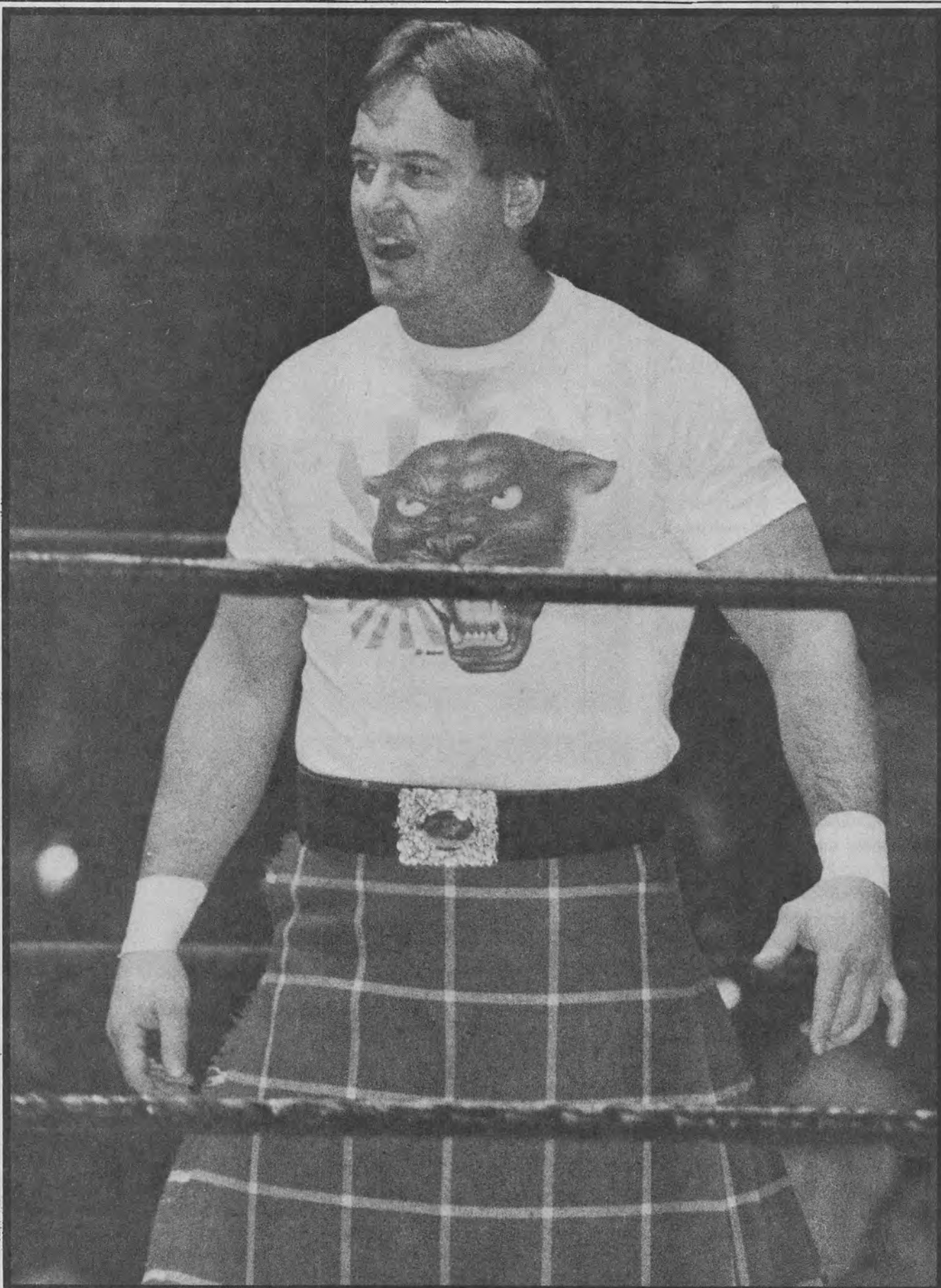
RODDY PIPER



Roddy Piper loses his wrestling tights as he stomps viciously at Paul Orndorff. Now that Orndorff has rejoined the ranks of the WWF rulebreakers and Piper has apparently turned fan favorite, expect this feud to continue.

dorff to wrestle Hulk Hogan and Mr. T ... Boxed Mr. T in *WrestleMania 2*, and has been said to have been considering turning pro boxer ("They wanted me to fight a one-round exhibition against Mike Tyson in New York in conjunction with the Statue of Liberty celebration, but I couldn't do it. They asked me only a week and a half before it was supposed to take place. There wasn't enough time to get ready") ... Recently featured in the soon-to-be-released movie *Body Slam*

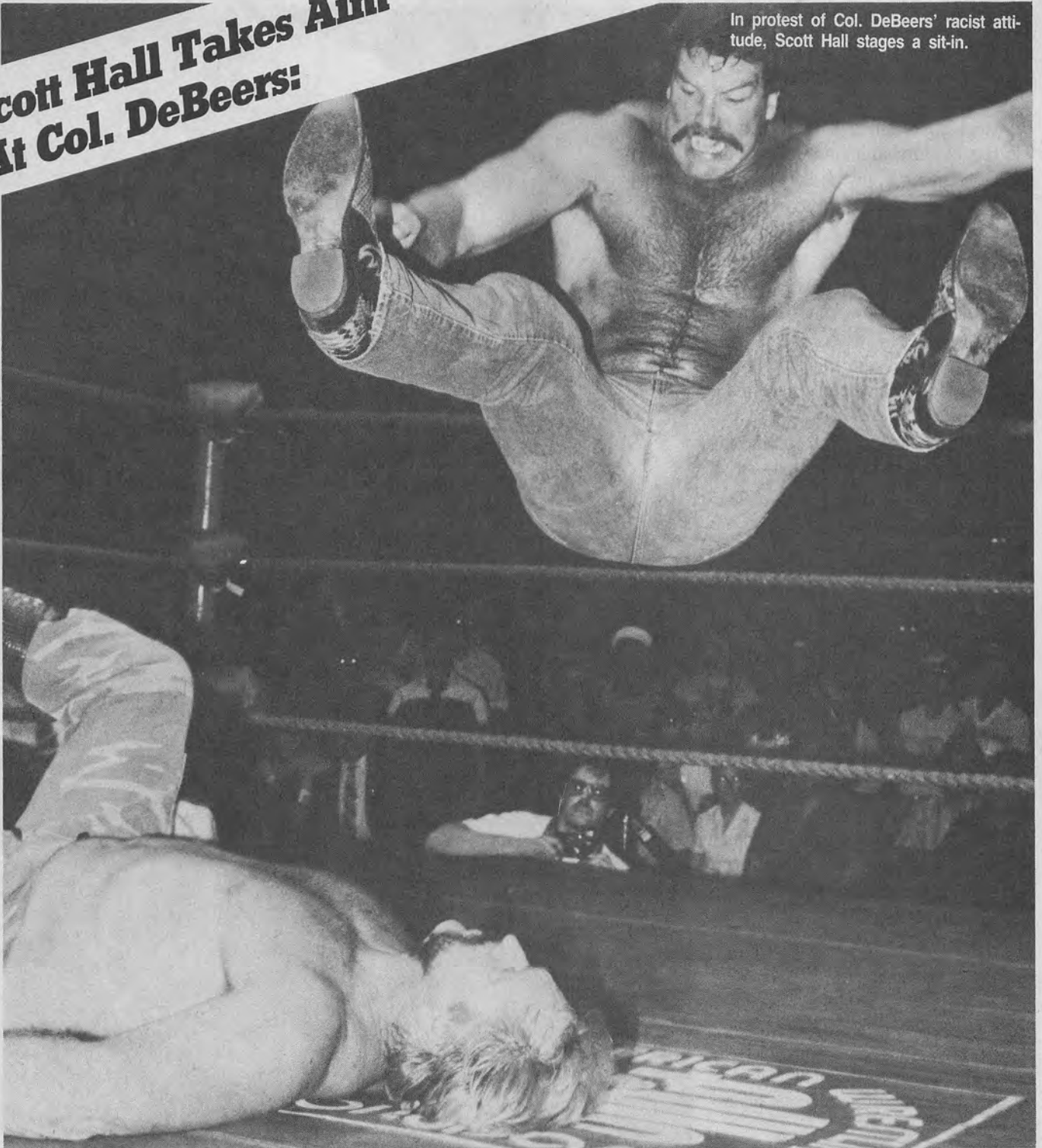
... A feud with Adrian Adonis seems imminent: When Piper returned to the WWF from Hollywood, he was angered by Adonis' refusal to relinquish his "Flower Shop" interview segment in favor of "Piper's Pit" ("The first thing we have to do, Adonis, is get rid of these flowers") ... Bob Orton may wind up involved in the feud as well, since Orton is now employed as Adonis' bodyguard ("Acey? Acey? how much do they pay you to wear pink?"). □



RODDY PIPER

**Scott Hall Takes Aim
At Col. DeBeers:**

In protest of Col. DeBeers' racist attitude, Scott Hall stages a sit-in.



THE BIG MAN'S BIGGEST TEST YET

Scott Hall has decided to tackle the issue of apartheid by tackling its loudest spokesman, Col. DeBeers. Will the first major feud for the AWA's big man prove to be his last?

Text begins on next page

SCOTT HALL DESCRIBES his upcoming series of matches against Col. DeBeers as the most important of his brief career.

"More important than my desire to win the World championship," the tall youngster said, "is my desire to rid the sport of that scum, Col. DeBeers. I look at DeBeers and I get sick. His attitude, his politics, his tactics—I'm generally an easygoing guy, but I'm more motivated now than I've ever been before.

"I want to see him in pain. I want him to suffer as his people have made others suffer."

The sudden intrusion of politics into Hall's game plan is somewhat out of character. His friend, Curt Hennig, with whom he formerly held the AWA World tag team championship, says Hall's public disclosures have surprised him.

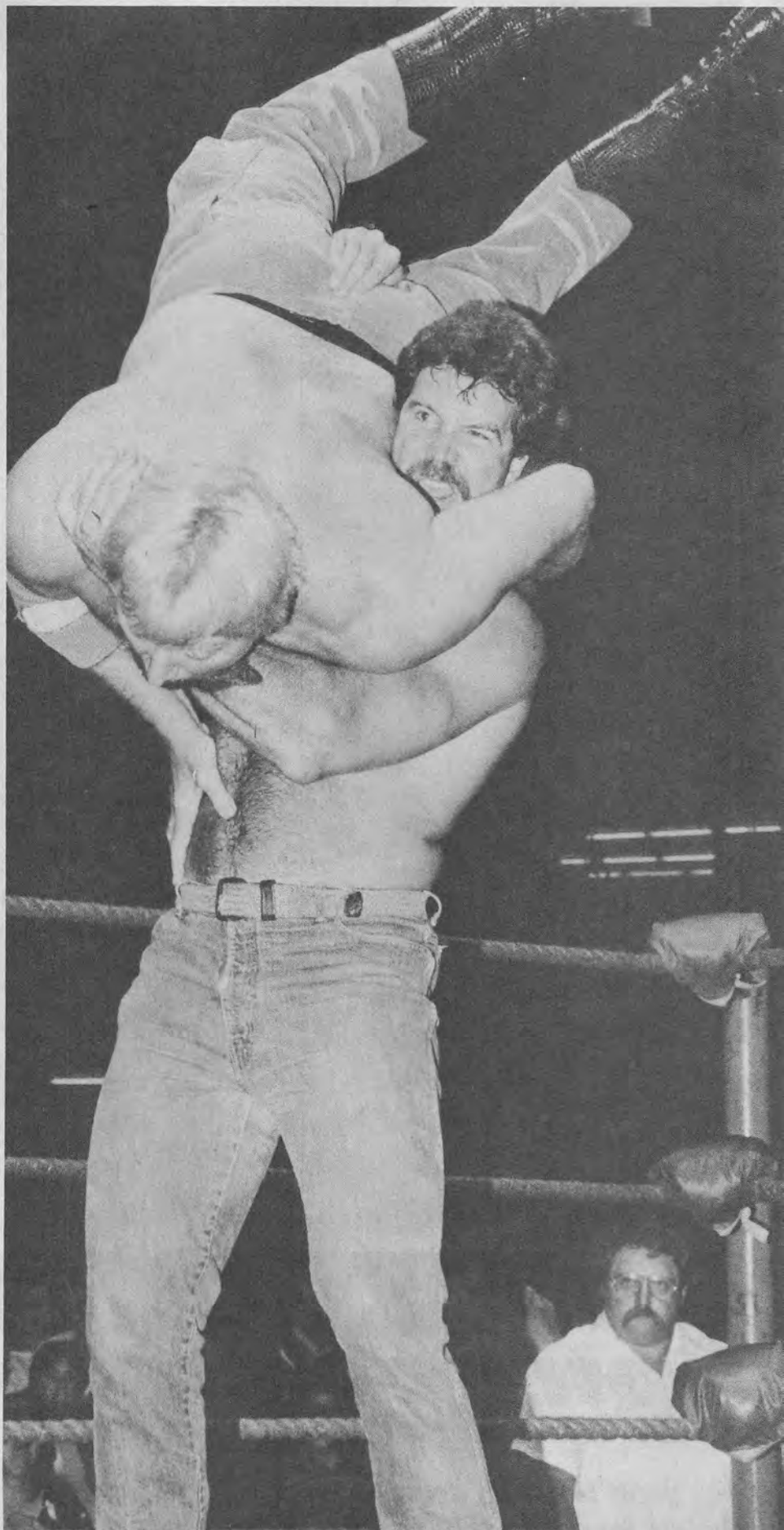
"I spent 28 days a month on the road with Scotty when we were champions," Hennig said, "and in all that time I don't think we ever talked about politics. Scott always believed that religion and politics were private matters. His remarks about DeBeers are very surprising.

"He obviously feels very strongly about the subject or else he wouldn't say anything. He must really want a piece of the Colonel."

DeBeers, wrestling's most outspoken proponent of the South African segregation policy of apartheid, combines his personal philosophies with the most violent array of ring tactics. DeBeers has made no bones about his desire to rid the world of "those hideous minority groups."

On a recent radio call-in show, special guest DeBeers slandered the blacks, Hispanics, Jews, and Italians, claiming the increased mingling of ethnic groups is resulting in the rapid decline of South Africa. "If something drastic isn't done soon," he said to a startled interviewer, "Johannesburg will resemble one of your American cesspools, like New York or Chicago.

"If violence is what it takes to rid my city of these horrible creatures, then violence is the answer. Because, as



Hall makes no secrets about his hatred for DeBeers. Hall is disgusted by DeBeers' racial politics and would like nothing better than to throw the South African out of wrestling.



Hall and DeBeers are both fine wrestlers, which has made their bouts even more interesting. The intensity of their matches is displayed here, as Hall knees DeBeers (left) and DeBeers drives his archrival into the turnbuckle (right).

you can see, if these blacks are given free reign to do as they please, society will absolutely disintegrate."

It is ironic that Hall was one of the first wrestlers DeBeers tried to recruit for his campaign of hate. Hall remembers being so utterly repulsed by the muscular foreigner that he just turned and walked away.

"I thought he was kidding," Hall recalls now. "He approached me and said, 'You look like a bloody good bloke, you look like one of us.' He wanted to form a team that would tour the country beating up black wrestlers. He wanted to send the videotapes back home to anti-apartheid groups as a warning of the impending violence that they would be exposed to. He actually thought such an idea had merit.

"The man is an animal. He is not a human being. I can't wait to beat the crap out of him."

Since coming to the AWA, DeBeers has not limited his attacks to members of minority groups. He is an equal opportunity purveyor of venom and brutality, a man, despite his claims, possessed by a hate of all mankind. He has delivered unprovoked attacks upon such wrestlers as Sgt. Slaughter and Nick Bockwinkel, and has been known to beat hapless preliminary grapplers to within an inch of the intensive care ward.

DeBeers scoffs at his critics. "I'm a pro wrestler, mate, not a florist. If anyone's got a problem with my ways, let 'em come and talk to me in person. I'll set 'em straight.

"All this talk about me hating the

black man has been trumpeted out of proportion by you Yankee yellow journalists. I have nothing against any man except my opponents. If you don't have a killer instinct, you don't belong in this sport.

"Philosophically, I believe the black man is better off serving the white man. His problems are taken care of. He lives in peace and is fed at regular intervals. But if they want their independence, then who am I to stand in their way?"

If DeBeers' condescension toward minorities rattles you, it positively infuriates Hall. "I can't believe in this day and age people like DeBeers exist," he says. "It's a fact of wrestling that rule-breakers preach hate and unwarranted violence. Their tactics are based upon

(Continued on page 58)

INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

TOP 15

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 1— RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN | 4— RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL | 8— CHRIS ADAMS
230, Stratford, England | 12— BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM |
| 2— HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA | 5— TERRY GORDY
289, Chattanooga, TN | 9— LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL | 13— LANCE VON ERICH
260, Arlington, TX |
| 3— NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia | 6— DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX | 10— MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA | 14— TED DIBIASE
247, Omaha, NB |
| | 7— NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA | 11— RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI | 15— STAN HANSEN
303, Borger, TX |

NWA

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| 1— RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN | 4— DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX | 8— BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX | 12— ARN ANDERSON
249, Minneapolis, MN |
| 2— NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia | 5— MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA | 9— RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec | 13— EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET
227, South Wales |
| 3— TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX | 6— LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL | 10— THE BULLET
234, parts unknown | 14— RON BASS
265, Pampa, TX |
| | 7— BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM | 11— CARLOS COLON
246, Bayamon, Puerto Rico | 15— RIP OLIVER
245, Tampa, FL |

AWA

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| 1— NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA | 4— NORD THE BARBARIAN
316, Bozeman, NT | 8— BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM | 12— CRUSHER BLACKWELL
474, Stone Mountain, GA |
| 2— LARRY ZBYSZKO
248, Pittsburgh, PA | 5— COL. DeBEERS
265, Cape Town, South Africa | 9— BORIS ZUKHOV
254, Leningrad, Russia | 13— GREG GAGNE
220, Robbinsdale, MN |
| 3— SCOTT HALL
290, Minneapolis, MN | 6— JIMMY SNUKA
251, Fiji Islands | 10— CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN | 14— BRAD RHEINGANS
248, Appleton, MN |
| | 7— STAN HANSEN
303, Borger, TX | 11— LEON WHITE
303, Denver, CO | 15— EARTHQUAKE FERRIS
380, San Francisco, CA |

WWF

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| 1— HULK HOGAN
305, Venice Beach, CA | 4— RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI | 8— JOHN STUDD
364, Los Angeles, CA | 12— GEORGE STEELE
298, Detroit, MI |
| 2— RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL | 5— JAKE ROBERTS
246, Stone Mountain, GA | 9— DICK SLATER
247, Pittsburgh, PA | 13— CPL. KIRCHNER
240, Ft. Bragg, NC |
| 3— PAUL ORNDORFF
253, Brandon, FL | 6— ADRIAN ADONIS
303, New York, NY | 10— KING KONG BUNDY
468, Atlantic City, NJ | 14— TITO SANTANA
245, Toluca, Mexico |
| | 7— MAGNIFICENT MURACO
274, Sunset Beach, HI | 11— HARLEY RACE
255, Kansas City, MO | 15— JUNKYARD DOG
280, Charlotte, NC |

MOST POPULAR

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1— HULK HOGAN
305, Venice Beach, CA | 4— HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY | 8— TERRY TAYLOR
225, Vero Beach, FL | 12— CHRIS ADAMS
230, Stratford, England |
| 2— DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX | 5— RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI | 9— LANCE VON ERICH
260, Arlington, TX | 13— JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN |
| 3— GIANT MACHINE
485, Japan | 6— LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL | 10— BARRY WINDHAM
230, Sweetwater, TX | 14— SCOTT HALL
290, Minneapolis, MN |
| | 7— MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA | 11— STEVE WILLIAMS
265, Tulsa, OK | 15— DICK MURDOCH
270, Waxahatchie, TX |

MOST HATED

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| 1— PAUL ORNDORFF
253, Brandon, FL | 4— RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN | 8— TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX | 12— KING KONG BUNDY
468, Atlantic City, NJ |
| 2— NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia | 5— TERRY GORDY
289, Chattanooga, TN | 9— MICHAEL HAYES
255, Marietta, GA | 13— STAN HANSEN
303, Borger, TX |
| 3— RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL | 6— JAKE ROBERTS
246, Stone Mountain, GA | 10— COL. DeBEERS
265, Cape Town, South Africa | 14— ADRIAN ADONIS
303, New York, NY |
| | 7— RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN | 11— ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan | 15— RON BASS
265, Pampa, TX |

TAG TEAMS

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1— THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS
NWA World tag team champions | 6— THE FANTASTICS
No. 1 contenders to UWF tag team title | 11— FIRE & FLAME
Mid-Southern tag team champions |
| 2— THE ROAD WARRIORS
No. 1 contenders to NWA World tag title | 7— THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS
No. 1 contenders to AWA tag team title | 12— ED GANTNER & KAREEM MUHAMMAD
No. 1 contenders to U.S. tag team title |
| 3— THE BRITISH BULLDOGS
WWF World tag team champions | 8— BRETT HART & JIM NEIDHART
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title | 13— JOE LIGHTFOOT & BILLY TWO EAGLES
Central States tag team champions |
| 4— THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title | 9— THE FABULOUS ONES
U.S. tag team champions | 14— MIKE MILLER & ABUGHADADIEN
Pacific Northwest tag team champions |
| 5— PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE & DOUG SOMERS
AWA World tag team champions | 10— IRON SHEIK & NIKOLAI VOLKOFF
No. 2 contenders to WWF tag team title | 15— THE KILLER BEES
No. 3 contenders to WWF tag team title |

These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place . . . Though several Canadian and Japanese championships are listed in the "Roll Call," the ratings themselves reflect United States-based competition. For period ended August 27, 1986

ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

- ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**
TAKASHI ISHIKAWA & MIGHTY INOUE
(October 31, 1985; from Isamu Teranishi & Animal Hamaguchi; Tokyo)
- * **ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN**
(July 31, 1986; from Jumbo Tsuruta; Tokyo)
- ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**
RIKI CHOSHU & YOSHIKI YATSU
(February 5, 1986; from Jumbo Tsuruta & Tenryu; Osaka, Japan)
- * **ALL-JAPAN JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HIRO SAITO**
(July 31, 1986; tournament final over Brad Armstrong; Tokyo)
- ALL-JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GENICHIRO TENRYU**
(April 26, 1986; tournament final over Ted DiBiase; Omiya, Japan)
- AWA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP: SHERRI MARTEL**
(June 28, 1986; from Candi Divine; Oakland, CA)
- AWA WORLD CHAMPION: NICK BOCKWINKEL**
(June 29, 1986; awarded by default from Stan Hansen; Denver, CO)
- AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BUDDY ROSE & DOUG SOMERS**
(May 17, 1986; from Scott Hall & Curt Hennig; Hammond, IN)
- AMERICAS CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Sgt. Slaughter)
- * **BAHAMAS CHAMPION: CHRIS CHAMPION**
(August 3, 1986; from Tyree Pride; Orlando, FL)
- CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: GREAT SAMU**
(June 30, 1986; from Dino Bravo; Montreal, Quebec)
- * **CANADIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DAN KROFFAT & TOM ZENK**
(August 12, 1986; from The Long Riders; Quebec City, Quebec)
- CENTRAL STATES CHAMPION: BOB BROWN**
(December 17, 1985; from Brett Sawyer; Ames, IA)
- * **CENTRAL STATES TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JOE LIGHTFOOT & BILLY TWO EAGLES**
(July 31, 1986; from Bobby Jagers & Moondog Moretti; Kansas City, MO)
- CENTRAL STATES TV CHAMPION: MIKE GEORGE**
(May 23, 1986; from Akio Saito; St. Joseph, MO)
- FLORIDA CHAMPION: RON BASS**
(July 15, 1986; from Kendall Windham; Tampa, FL)
- INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING GRAND PRIX CHAMPION: ANTONIO INOKI**
(June 19, 1986; tournament final over Dick Murdoch; Tokyo, Japan)
- * **IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: OSAMU KIDO & AKIRA MAEDA**
(August 5, 1986; from Kengo Kimura & Tsumi Fujinami; Tokyo)
- IWGP JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: NOBUHIKO TAKADA**
(May 19, 1986; from Shiro Koshinaka; Tokyo)
- JAPANESE WOMEN'S CHAMPION: DEVIL MASAMI**
(December 12, 1985; tournament final over Dump Matsumoto; Tokyo)
- JAPANESE WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE CRUSH GIRLS**
(March 20, 1986; from Itzuki Yamzaki & Noriyo Tatenko; Osaka, Japan)
- * **MID-AMERICAN CHAMPION: TRACY SMOTHERS**
(August 11, 1986; tournament final over Basher; Memphis, TN)
- MID-ATLANTIC CHAMPION: BLACK BART**
(March 18, 1986; from Sam Houston; Mooresville, NC)
- MID-SOUTHERN CHAMPION: BAM BAM BIGELOW**
(July 28, 1986; 23-man battle royal victory; Memphis, TN)
- MID-SOUTHERN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JERRY LAWLER**
(July 19, 1986; from Bill Dundee; Nashville, TN)
- * **MID-SOUTHERN INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**
JEFF JARRETT & PAT TANAKA
(August 25, 1986; from Akio Sato & Tarzan Goto; Memphis, TN)
- MID-SOUTHERN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: FIRE & FLAME**
(July 18, 1986; from Jerry Lawler & Hillbilly Elmer; Jackson, TN)
- MISSOURI CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Harley Race)
- NATIONAL CHAMPION: TULLY BLANCHARD**
(March 4, 1986; from Dusty Rhodes; Spartanburg, SC)
- NATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Ole & Arn Anderson)
- * **NWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: STEVE REGAL**
(August 2, 1986; from Denny Brown; Atlanta)
- NWA SIX-MAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE ROAD WARRIORS & DUSTY RHODES**
(May 17, 1986; from Ivan & Nikita Koloff and Baron Von Raschke; Baltimore)
- NWA TV CHAMPION: ARN ANDERSON**
(January 4, 1986; tournament final over Wahoo McDaniel; Charlotte, NC)
- * **NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR**
(August 9, 1986; from Dusty Rhodes; St. Louis)
- * **NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS**
(August 16, 1986; from The Midnight Express; Philadelphia)
- PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: RIP OLIVER**
(June 13, 1986; battle royal tournament; Portland, OR)
- PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MIKE MILLER & ABUGHADIEN**
(July 14, 1986; from Brady Boone & Cocoa Samoa; Port Angeles, WA)
- PWF CHAMPION: RIKI CHOSHU**
(April 5, 1986; from Stan Hansen; Yokohama, Japan)
- PWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STAN HANSEN & TED DIBIASE**
(as mandated by PWF wrestling officials)
- POLYNESIAN PACIFIC CHAMPION: SUPERFLY TUI**
(March 26, 1986; from Jerry Lawler; Honolulu)
- * **POLYNESIAN PACIFIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**
FARMER BOY IPO & LEROY BROWN
(August 9, 1986; from Mad Max & Super Max; Honolulu, HI)
- * **SOUTHEAST CHAMPION: EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET**
(August 4, 1986; from Wendell Cooley; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST CONTINENTAL CHAMPION: JERRY STUBBS**
(July 14, 1986; from Brad Armstrong; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: ROBERT FULLER & JIMMY GOLDEN**
(July 14, 1986; from Steve Armstrong & Tommy Rich; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST U.S. JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TIM HORNER**
(May 19, 1986; from Tom Pritchard; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHERN CHAMPION: LEX LUGAR**
(July 29, 1986; from Masked Superstar; Tampa, FL)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR USA U.S. CHAMPION: AL MADRIL**
(July 12, 1986; from Billy Joe Travis; Pasadena, TX)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR USA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Tommy Wright)
- * **TEXAS ALL-STAR USA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MIKE & BILLY GOLDEN**
(August 10, 1986; from Tiger Conway Jr. & Iceman Parsons; Pasadena, TX)
- * **U.S. CHAMPION: NIKITA KOLOFF**
(August 17, 1986; best-of-seven series over Magnum T.A.; Charlotte, NC)
- U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE FABULOUS ONES**
(July 12, 1986; tournament final over The Sheepherders; Portland, OR)
- UWF HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TERRY GORDY**
(May 30, 1986; tournament final over Hacksaw Duggan; Houston, TX)
- UWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Eddie Gilbert & Sting)
- UWF TV CHAMPION: TERRY TAYLOR**
(May 25, 1986; from Buzz Sawyer; Tulsa, OK)
- WORLD CLASS CHAMPION: CHRIS ADAMS**
(July 4, 1986; from Bruiser Brody; Dallas, TX)
- WORLD CLASS SIX-MAN CHAMPIONS: KEVIN, LANCE, & MIKE VON ERICH**
(May 4, 1986; from The Fabulous Freebirds; Irving, TX)
- WORLD CLASS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Chris Adams & Gino Hernandez)
- * **WORLD CLASS TV CHAMPION: STEVE SIMPSON**
(August 11, 1986; from Buzz Sawyer; Ft. Worth, TX)
- WORLD CLASS TEXAS CHAMPION: BUZZ SAWYER**
(July 4, 1986; from Brian Adonis; Dallas, TX)
- WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: THE FABULOUS MOOLAH**
(November 25, 1985; from Wendi Richter; New York)
- WORLD WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: LELANI KAI & JUDY MARTIN**
(August 1985; from Desiree Petersen & Velvet McIntyre; Egypt)
- WWC JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: INVADER III**
(May 4, 1986; from Chicky Starr; Caguas, Puerto Rico)
- WWC NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Al Perez)
- WWC NORTH AMERICAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: CHICKY & RON STARR**
(May 2, 1986; from Invaders I & II; Fagardo, Puerto Rico)
- WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: INVADER I**
(June 29, 1986; from Eric Embry; San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- * **WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE SHEEPHERDERS**
(August 3, 1986; from The RPMs; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)
- WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Carlos Colon)
- WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: RANDY SAVAGE**
(February 8, 1986; from Tito Santana; Boston)
- WWF WORLD CHAMPION: HULK HOGAN**
(January 23, 1984; from The Iron Sheik; New York)
- WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE BRITISH BULLDOGS**
(April 7, 1986; from Greg Valentine & Brutus Beefcake; Rosemont, IL)

Rock 'n' Roll Revival



AFTER ROBERT GIBSON pinned Bobby Eaton to capture the first fall of The Rock 'n' Roll Express' two-out-of-three fall NWA tag team title match with The Midnight Express, Jim Cornette leaned over to Dennis Condrey and whispered, "Routine 4. We need it."

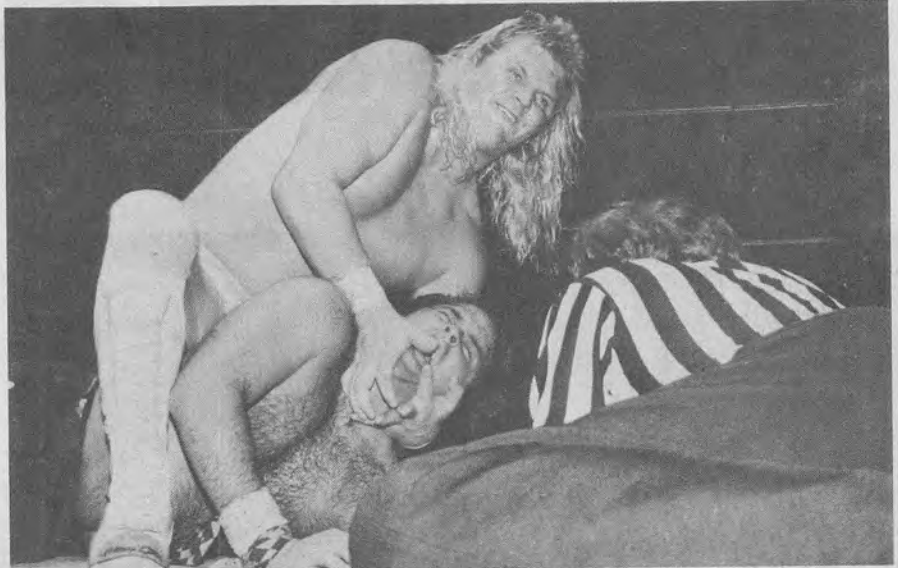
Whatever "Routine 4" is, Cornette wouldn't reveal in the postmatch interviews, but it worked well enough to allow Condrey to quickly (under three minutes) pin Robert Gibson and even the match. More important, it silenced the crowd at the Philadelphia Civic Center, whose thundering cheers—especially after the first pinfall—threatened to overwhelm The Midnight Express before Gibson and Rick Morton could get a chance.

"That was my intention," Cornette trumpeted after the match. "All those damned teenybopping loudmouth jackasses those guys have. They were breaking my concentration and upsetting Dennis and Bobby. I knew we needed a quick pin. I knew we needed Routine 4."

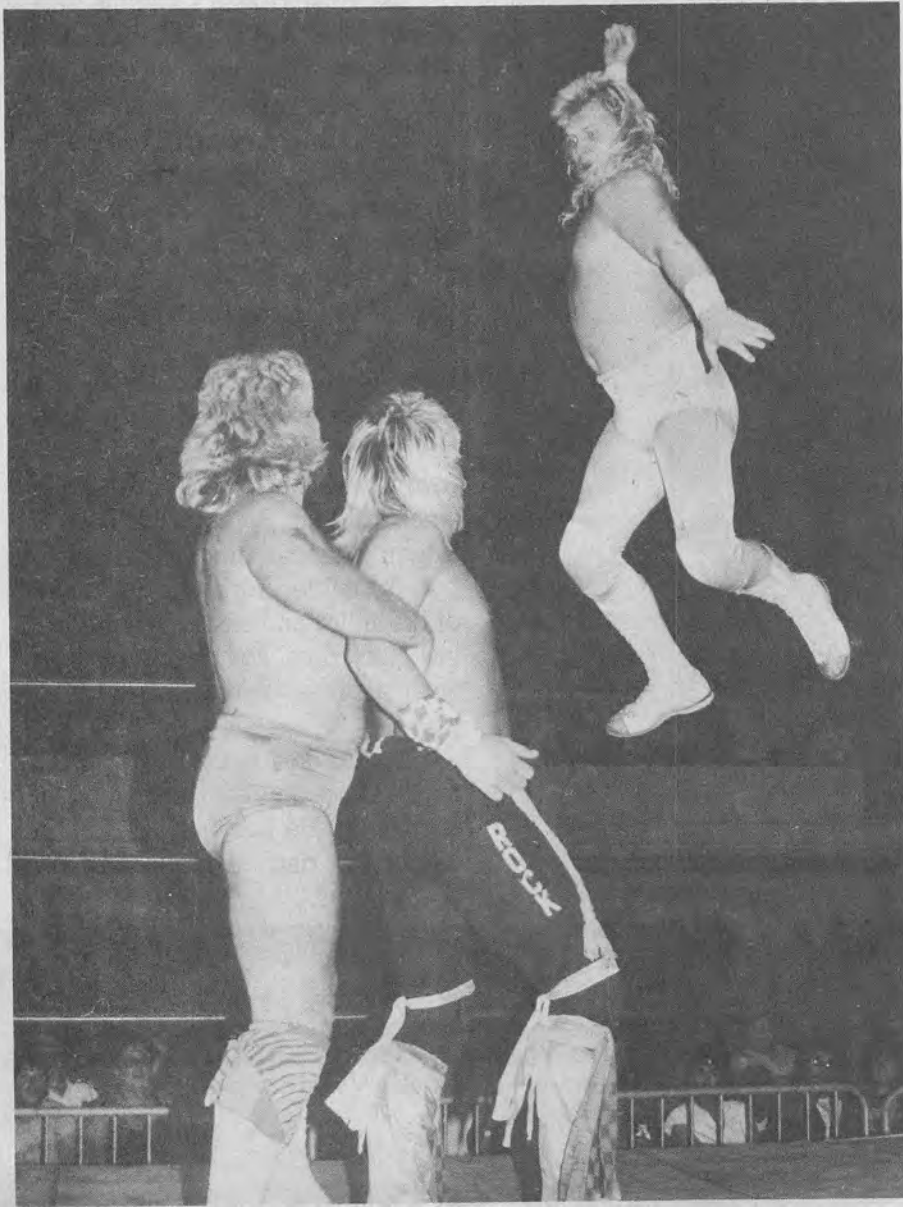
Despite repeated questioning, Cornette would still not reveal the origins of his stratagem. Too bad for him he didn't employ it in the third and decisive fall. Morton, responding to his

MORTON AND GIBSON REGAIN THE NWA WORLD TAG TITLE!

By defeating their archrivals, The Rock 'n' Roll Express made it clear that not only did the NWA tag team title belong to them, but so did the year 1986



Robert Gibson lies prone on the mat (above left) as Bobby Eaton comes down with an elbowsmash. Eaton applies pressure on Gibson (above right) and double-teams Rick Morton with Dennis Condrey (below left). Gibson takes the advantage, driving a forearm into Eaton's head (below right).

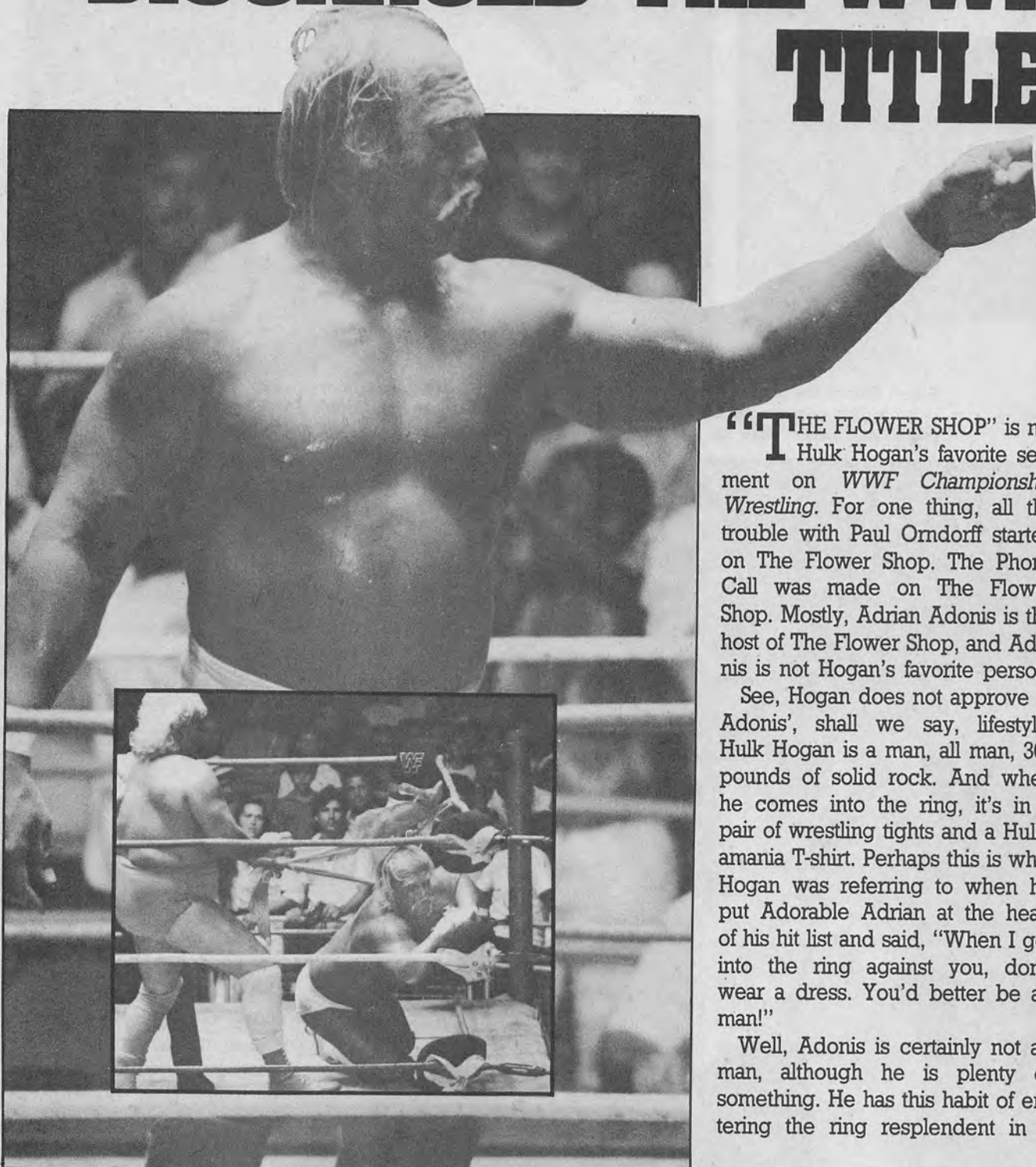


fans, small-packaged a tiring Condrey to give The Rock 'n' Roll Express their third NWA title in less than a year.

The current darlings of professional wrestling then chased Cornette from the ring and basked in the adulation rained on them from the partisan crowd. Several moments passed before the party moved on to the Rock 'n' Rolls' dressing room, where hundreds of people partook of the champagned celebration. Gibson and Morton huddled in a corner, sipping quietly from

(Continued on page 52)

THE MATCH THAT DISGRACED THE WWF TITLE



"THE FLOWER SHOP" is not Hulk Hogan's favorite segment on *WWF Championship Wrestling*. For one thing, all the trouble with Paul Orndorff started on The Flower Shop. The Phone Call was made on The Flower Shop. Mostly, Adrian Adonis is the host of The Flower Shop, and Adonis is not Hogan's favorite person.

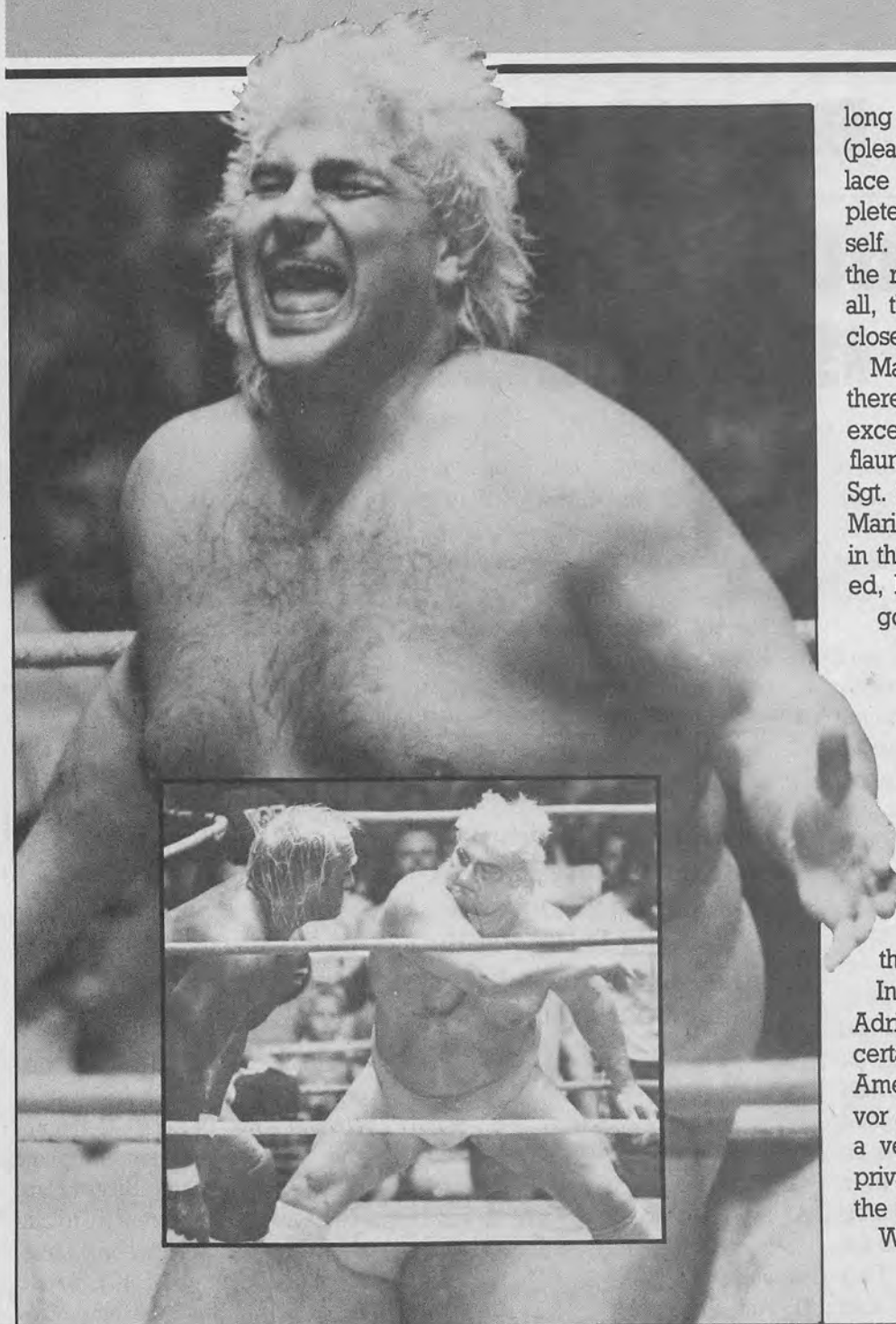
See, Hogan does not approve of Adonis', shall we say, lifestyle. Hulk Hogan is a man, all man, 305 pounds of solid rock. And when he comes into the ring, it's in a pair of wrestling tights and a Hulkamania T-shirt. Perhaps this is what Hogan was referring to when he put Adorable Adrian at the head of his hit list and said, "When I get into the ring against you, don't wear a dress. You'd better be all man!"

Well, Adonis is certainly not all man, although he is plenty of something. He has this habit of entering the ring resplendent in a

Hulk Hogan vs.

Photos by David Fitzgerald

The WWF might have reached a new low with its recent series of matches between World champion Hulk Hogan and Adrian Adonis. The behavior of Adonis, both in and out of the ring, was an embarrassment and an affront to the credibility of wrestling



long dress, makeup, and heels (please, Adrian, no minis and no lace stockings!), making a complete and utter spectacle of himself. When Adrian Adonis enters the ring, people take notice. After all, that's what coming out of the closet is all about, isn't it?

Maybe to some people, but there are many out there who take exception to Adonis' flagrant flaunting of his sexual preference, Sgt. Slaughter for one. The ex-U.S. Marine spent a good deal of time in the WWF and has since departed, but he still keeps tabs on the goings on in the area where he first made it big.

"I've been watching some of their shows and it's not the same as it was," says Slaughter. "I don't see any reason to have anybody coming out of closets. I don't think some of the things the WWF is doing are for the age groups they're aiming at."

In other words, put a lid on it, Adrian! Cool it, Vince! Slaughter, certainly a staunch defender of the American way, is very much in favor of equal rights, but wrestling is a very public sport and a man's private life simply has no place in the ring.

Which brings us right to the
(Continued on page 64)

Adrian Adonis

HOTSEAT

BABY DOLL:

"DUSTY RHODES IS A LOSER!"

THERE'S AN OLD Irish proverb that says: "The wind is not swifter than a woman's choice between two men." There may be more Irish blood in Baby Doll than anyone ever suspected.

Baby Doll began her career as a bodyguard for Gino Hernandez in the summer of 1984. Less than six months later, attracted by several gifts (including an automobile), she left Gino and joined Tully Blanchard. About a year later, she left Tully and joined Dusty Rhodes. Now she has left Dusty and is allied with Ric Flair.

Here's what happened during a Dusty Rhodes-Ric Flair bout on August 17, in Charlotte, North Carolina: When Dusty had Flair down for a pin, Baby Doll placed Flair's foot on the rope, forcing a break. When Dusty tried to reverse Flair's figure-four, Baby Doll helped Flair keep the leverage he needed to maintain the hold. She grabbed a chair and tried hitting Dusty with it, but missed. Seconds later, though, Arn Anderson and Tully Blanchard ran into the ring and used the chair to beat Rhodes senseless. Now she's been appearing on interviews with Flair, and seems to be firmly allied with The Four Horsemen.

Associate Editor Craig Peters, who

interviewed Baby Doll on the "Hotseat" for the August 1985 issue of *Inside Wrestling*, spoke with her regarding these most recent developments in her career.

Q: The last time we spoke for *Inside Wrestling*, Baby Doll, you were with Tully Blanchard. In the time

“

I'm not a stupid airhead blonde, and I have a certain set of personal standards . . . I thought Dusty was the kind of man who could get me what I want.

”

since then . . .

A: In the time since then, I have learned some very serious lessons about life.

Q: And those are?

A: Well, a lot of those lessons I really don't feel I should be discussing in a national magazine. But I can tell you that I learned a few things about Dusty Rhodes.

Q: For example?

A: For example, Dusty Rhodes is a loser, plain and simple. Look, I'm not a stupid airhead blonde, and I have a certain set of personal standards that I won't go into in depth here, but hey—I thought Dusty was the kind of a man who could give me what I want.

Q: And what is that?

A: What everyone wants. Money. Fame. Good times. Success. In wrestling, you can add championship gold to that list.

Q: So you left Dusty because he lost the NWA World title back to Ric Flair?

A: No, not just because of that. But since you brought it up, I have a few things I want to say on that subject. First of all, I want you to go back over the past 12 months and count up the number of title shots Dusty has had against Flair. You need a damn computer to add them all up. And how many times, again and again, did Dusty have to try to defeat Ric? And how many times did he fail?

Q: True, but he finally did . . .

A: Hey—if anybody else had the kinds of chances at Flair that Dusty had, he would have had the





“

Dusty Rhodes is a loser. He needed so many tries to win the belt, and then when he finally wins it, he lets it slip through his fat little fingers.

”

belt in a month instead of 12. I mean, really, just look at the record. And then when he finally *does* defeat Flair, how many days does he hold the title?

Q: I believe it was . . .

A: Don't even tell me. I know what it was. It makes me sick. And if any wrestling fan has any kind of sense at all, he or she will realize what I did, and that is that Dusty Rhodes is a loser. He needed so many tries to win the belt, and then when he finally has it, he lets it slip through his fat little fingers.

Q: And that's what made you leave him?

A: Well, I don't like to be associated with losers.

Q: Over the past few months, you've said some terribly nasty things about Tully Blanchard and Ric Flair. Now, you were with Tully



Baby Doll stood behind her man Dusty Rhodes until she could no longer use him. After Dusty dropped the NWA World title to Ric Flair, she dropped him.

some months ago, and I wonder whether . . .

A: You wonder what our relationship is now?

Q: Well, you seem to be with Flair now, and I wonder whether . . .

A: I'm with nobody but myself. Slick Ric is not the kind of a man who is going to suffocate me, the way Dusty was. Ric can have any woman in the world he wants. He's not going to keep me on a leash. I'm an independent woman, I demand respect and room to breathe. And Ric will give me respect and room.

Q: How about Tully?

A: Well, I'm willing to give Tully an-

other chance here. I think he's grown up a bit since we were together last, and I think he's ready to give me the respect I deserve.

Q: Does your new attitude toward Dusty and Flair mean any changes in your attitude toward Jim Cornette?

A: Absolutely not. I'd still slug that wimp if I saw him face to face.

Q: In your last "Hotseat" interview, you said, and I quote, "I don't conform to anyone's ideas of me except my own. I am what I want to be, and the hell with anyone who doesn't accept me for what I am." Comment?

A: Well, that's as true today as it ever was, isn't it?

Q: Fair enough. I'd like to . . .

A: One other thing about that quote, now that I think about it. See, Dusty did not accept me for what I am. He tried to change me in subtle ways. I said it then and I'll say it again now: The hell with anyone who doesn't accept me for what I am. The hell with Dusty.

Q: A quick question about the man you've been accompanying to the ring.

A: The Warlord. He's quite an awesome physical specimen, isn't he?

Q: Very much like another Road Warrior. What are your plans for him?

A: I'm going to work with him, help train him, and bring him along slowly in the sport. I think if he



Debris flies toward Ric Flair and Baby Doll as they are interviewed by Bob Caudle (above). While Baby Doll has pledged her "loyalty" to Flair, she says that that doesn't change anything about the way she feels about Jim Cornette, whom she pounds during The Great American Bash (below).



“

Dusty did not accept me for what I am. He tried to change me in subtle ways. The hell with anyone who doesn't accept me for what I am. The hell with Dusty.

”

doesn't take matches beyond his experience and skills, he can eventually become one of the all-time greats of the sport.

Q: Are there any plans to have Flair and Tully and the Andersons work on training him?

A: Well, that would be the best training for a rookie, wouldn't it?

Q: One more question, Baby Doll: How deep does the hatred between you and Dusty run?

A: I wouldn't call it hatred, Craig. I'd call it . . . I guess *pity* is the best word. I pity the man. He's so much less than he claims to be, than he thinks he is. It's really kind of pathetic when you put any kind of real thought into it. I put thought into it, and that's why I am where I am today. As for Dusty—he should do us all a favor and retire tomorrow. □

Lex Luger Must See The Light

IT'S TIME TO LEAVE THE SUNSHINE STATE!



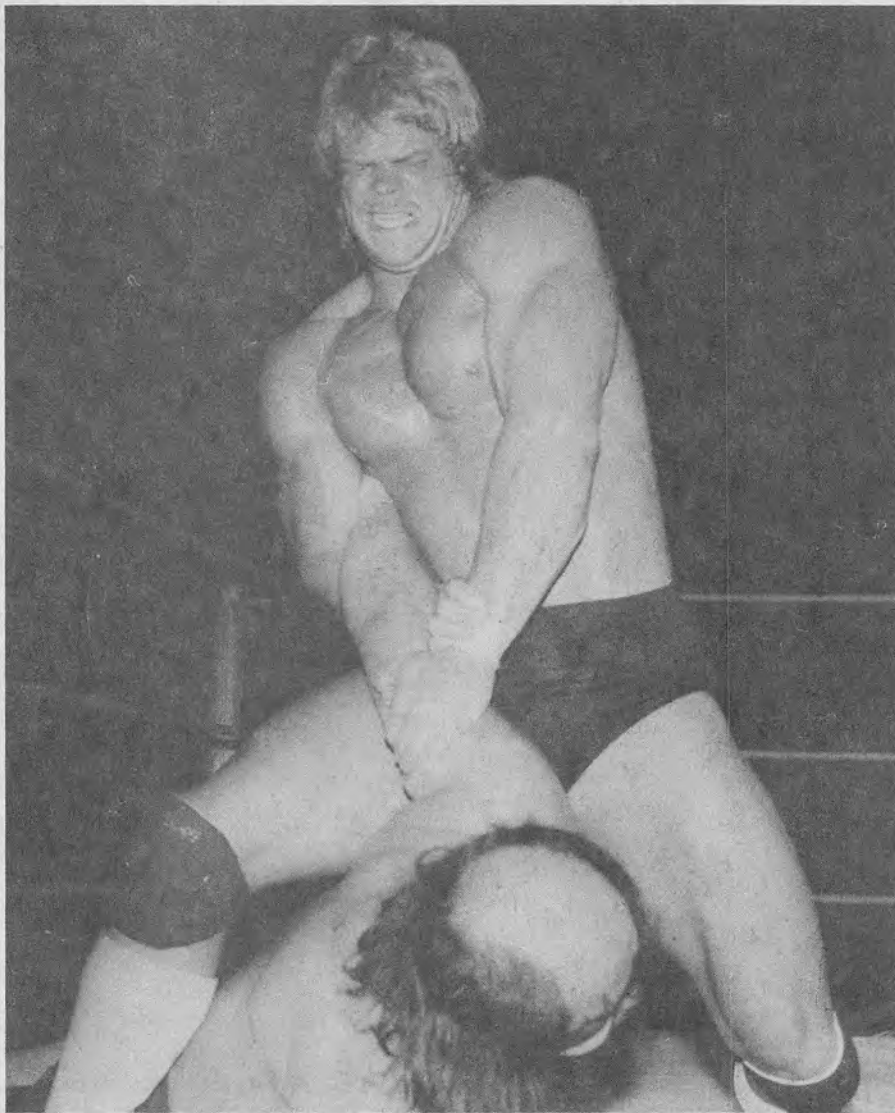
IT'S A STUPID joke but no stupider than others of the same ilk. *How many of Lex Luger's opponents does it take to screw in a light bulb? None. After they wrestle Luger, they can't see anyway.*

The point is made. Here in Florida there is Lex Luger and then there is everyone else. Luger's dominance of the state is so complete and secure that already—after only a year or so in the sport—he is in the position of being left without any quality opposition. What up and coming star would dare risk the embarrassment and possible injury that wrestling Luger poses?

"Nonsense," the big man answers. "Every wrestler down here wants a shot at the Southern title. There's talent coming in every day. The Masked Superstar. Kendo Nagasaki. Ed Gantner. Flair was here not too long ago. This area could fire up at any moment."

Who's working whom? Luger has bounced Nagasaki from Orlando down to Miami, heaping such punishment upon the Orien-

By staying in Florida, many critics feel that superstar Lex Luger is hurting his chances at a major championship



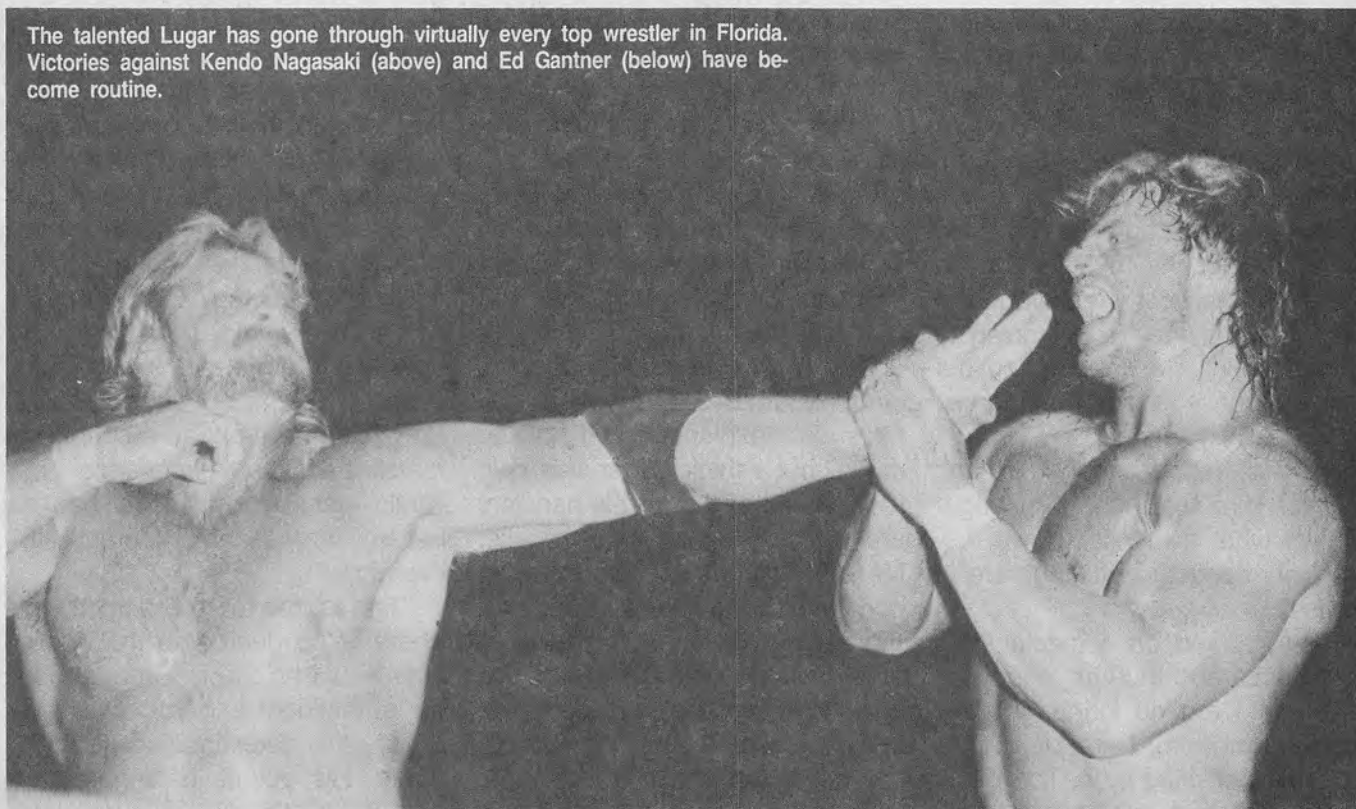
tal that Nagasaki's manager, the outspoken Sir Oliver Humperdink, can barely mouth a serious threat anymore.

The Masked Superstar came, he saw, and he left, managing during his quick stay to steal the Southern title by pinning Luger after headbutting him with a foreign object while the champ's foot was caught in the ropes. The rematch was an ugly affair, Superstar receiving such a bad thrashing that if he hadn't needed a mask before, he would certainly need one now.

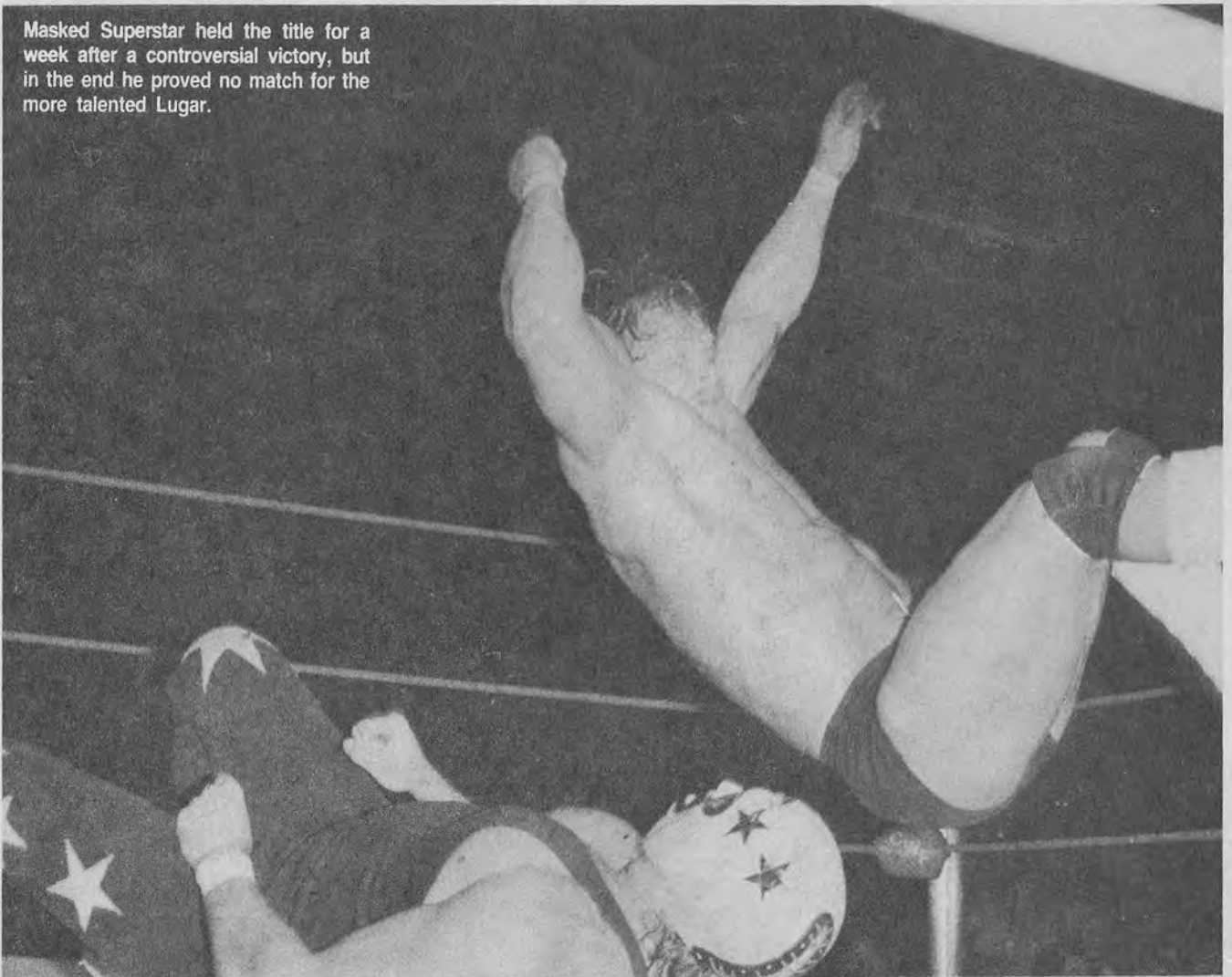
True, Flair was in Florida and Luger took him measure for measure in winning the first fall, only to fall victim to a vicious attack by a dozen henchmen between falls, rendering him unable to continue. Now that Flair has his NWA crown back, the chances that he might return to Florida and face Luger again before the year 2000 are slight.

And as for Ed "The Bull" Gantner, while not to diminish the talents of this brash, young rule-breaker, his best effort is still many years away from alarming

The talented Luger has gone through virtually every top wrestler in Florida. Victories against Kendo Nagasaki (above) and Ed Gantner (below) have become routine.



Masked Superstar held the title for a week after a controversial victory, but in the end he proved no match for the more talented Lugar.



Lex Lugar.

That about does it for the state except for Ron Bass, who is busy defending his Florida championship, and Barry Windham, whom Lugar has befriended and will not wrestle.

Clearly, for Lugar to advance as a wrestler, he must take on a variety of the best wrestlers in the world. And if they're not going to come to him, he'd better go out and purchase a set of luggage. "Don't worry about Lex Lugar," says his former manager and mentor Hiro Matsuda. "Mr. Lugar knows what he is doing. Mr. Lugar very capable of taking care of himself.

"We worked on a master plan for his career months ago, and although I am no longer in daily contact with him, I am pleased to see he is sticking by it. Too many young wrestlers expect to own the

sport right away. Some of the best talent has been ruined by being brought along too fast.

"It is obvious to anyone watching that Mr. Lugar has outgrown his Florida opposition. He no longer needs to concentrate on victories. Now the emphasis is on technique. He is improving in every category. Soon he will be ready for the country."

Our own veteran correspondent, Matt Brock, doesn't buy Matsuda's explanation. "I hate to say it, but I think Lugar has cold feet. It's either that or his handlers are making a very big mistake. Matsuda is dead wrong. You don't improve by wrestling against the same wrestlers who you've already established your dominance against. I don't mean to denigrate the Florida area, but I feel Lugar has grown beyond all the competition there.

"Lugar can still make Florida the base of his operations and wrestle there most often. But what's preventing him from making a trip to the World Championship area? Wrestling against Tully Blanchard, Nikita Koloff, and the Andersons? Or the UWF, and wrestling guys like The Freebirds or One Man Gang? Or the WWF, where he would be tested by wrestlers like Randy Savage, Big John Studd, and Paul Orndorff? So what if he dropped a couple of matches? The experience he would gain would make him a better wrestler practically overnight.

"And let me tell you something. There is no guarantee that those guys could take him. Even though he is confident and cocky, I think Lugar is underestimating his own ability. His talents belong to the

(Continued on page 62)

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The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One

ONE ON ONE



"You took a walk down Badstreet, and you done got run over by a steamroller!"

—Michael Hayes

DESCRIBING THE INCIDENT should place the feud in its proper perspective: UWF heavyweight champion Terry Gordy was defending his title in a match against Ted DiBiase. Gordy clotheslined DiBiase and pinned him. Gordy's Freebird partner Michael Hayes entered the ring and began taunting DiBiase.

By now, DiBiase had recovered from the clothesline, and he was not about to put up with Hayes' taunts after a loss. DiBiase hit Hayes in the face several times. Gordy clotheslined DiBiase again and Hayes and Gordy, now aided by Freebird Buddy Roberts, attacked DiBiase in a brutal three-on-one melee that was highlighted by Gordy spiking DiBiase.

Just then, DiBiase's close friend Steve Williams ran into the ring. DiBiase was virtually helpless, and a three-on-one situation quickly developed on Williams. With Hayes and Roberts pushing Williams' legs for extra impact, Gordy delivered a piledriver to Williams on the concrete arena floor.

Williams found himself in the hospital, and DiBiase found himself reliving a horrible memory: The 'Birds had done precisely the same thing to him in 1981 in Atlanta.

Now DiBiase is out for revenge. He's taken to attacking Hayes during his matches, and he's determined to make Hayes—and, indeed, all three Freebirds—experience the same kind of

pain and suffering that Williams experienced. *Inside Wrestling* didn't experience much difficulty in getting these two to agree to speak with each other . . . "One on One."

TED DIBIASE:

You're a brave man, Hayes, agreeing to speak with me over the phone. Where are your other two buddies, double-teaming some poor old paraplegic in one of those dives you guys hang out in?

MICHAEL HAYES:

Let me tell you something, brother, a paraplegic would put up more of a fight than you did. Where the hell did you ever get your wrestling training, boy? Talk about a sitting duck! You took a walk down Badstreet, and

you done got run over by a steamroller! *Hahaha!*

TD: I think you're getting your facts a little mixed up, Hayes. If I remember correctly, you had no business running into the ring when I was wrestling Gordy, and then your other Freebird moron, Buddy Roberts, had to make it three-on-one. I just have one question for you, brother. Why is it that none of you guys can ever fight your own battles?

MH: Hey, man, you took the first swing, if you remember. Maybe your brain was a little too mushy from Bamm Bamm's clothesline, but all I did was come on into the ring, congratulate Bamm Bamm, and say a few words to you. You struck out first, broth-

N ONE



"I'm not one to back down from a challenge by no prissy sissy."

—Ted DiBiase

er, and I reacted out of self-defense.

TD: You have a pretty screwed up idea of saying a few words, boy. You came right into that ring and challenged me, and I wasn't gonna let you get away with it. That was my mistake, Hayes. I should have just waited until I got you into a position where I could handle you on my own, but I'm not one to back down from a challenge by no prissy sissy.

MH: Prissy sis—! Listen up, DiBiase. I don't need to hear any lip from you. I'll do all my talking with you in the ring. And before you know it, you'll be in a hospital bed right next to your buddy "Dr. Death." *Ha!* What a joke

that is, Dr. Death. The Doc is a patient, now! *Hahaha!* How you like *that* one, Teddy boy?

TD: How you gonna like it when you're sharing a hospital room with Gordy and Roberts, mister? What you did to me in '81 I'm never gonna forget and when Steve gets out of that hospital, there's gonna be two mean bro's on the trail of three dead-meat Freebirds. That's what I call a mismatch, *boy*.

MH: Me, too. Three on two. A *definite* mismatch. We oughta wipe your sorry butts all across the UWF in record time.

TD: Speaking of records, Hayes, just the other day I was walking down the street and I could have sworn I heard what sounded like three

dying mules moaning "The Boys Are Back In Town" over the radio. I had to cover my ears, it was so bad. Then, I asked somebody what the hell that was and he told me it was this group called The Freebirds and they had a new album out. Now, that wouldn't be you and your buddies singing that God-awful crap, would it, Hayes?

MH: DiBiase, buddy, all your taste is in your butt. You wouldn't know good music if it came up and spit in your eye. But, then, what could I expect? You have about the same taste in friends. I don't see Steve Williams bouncing back too quickly, buddy. Bad music, bad friends, bad wrestler. You made the hat trick, brother!

TD: Speaking of tricks, Hayes . . .

MH: Now watch it boy.

TD: That was an interesting move you pulled on Dark Journey. When you kissed her, I don't think I've ever seen a woman more nauseated. You always have that effect on women?

MH: Nauseated? Damn, boy, your eyesight is as bad as your wrestling. She loved it. She was just a little upset that I kissed her in front of so many people. DJ's a bit shy, you know.

TD: No, Hayes, I wouldn't know. I treat women with a little more respect than you do, even that slut, Missy Hyatt, who, by the way, would be the perfect woman for you. She's just your type. Maybe when she finally dumps Tatum and gets tired of Gilbert, she'll scrape off the bottom of the barrel and come up with you.

MH: This conversation is getting ridiculous. Almost as ridiculous as you. I'll see you in the ring, punk. In the ring, and in pain. Enjoy your health while you can.

TD: You'd better be ready to live up to those words, scum, because there's gonna be hell to pay. Just mark my words. Freebird Fantasia is dead. □

STRONG ARMS

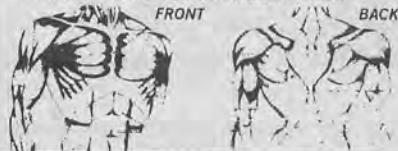
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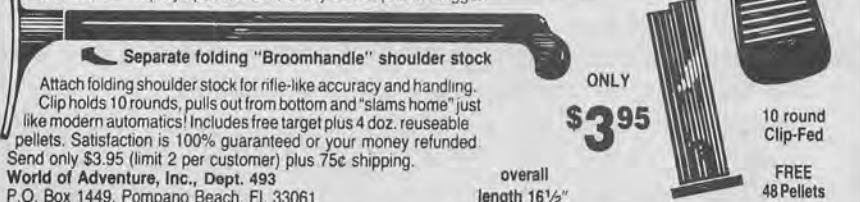
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 6)



Lance Von Erich and Rick Rude are two of the wrestlers who Jim Dustin feels make the World Class area superior to the AWA.

Bruiser Brody also seems to have left the AWA. With them gone, aside from the possible exceptions of Nord the Barbarian, Jimmy Snuka, and Scott Hall, the AWA is a collection of talentless twits.

The World Class area boasts such talent as the Von Erichs, Bruiser Brody, Rick Rude, Abdullah the Butcher, Butch Reed, and Buzz Sawyer. If Verne Gagne is reading this and he is not already considering the stupidity of his statement, let me add to the above list: Chris Adams, Steve Simpson, Brian Adidas, Kabuki, Killer Brooks, Matt Borne, the Battens, the Grapplers, the Dingo, Mark Youngblood, and Skip Young.

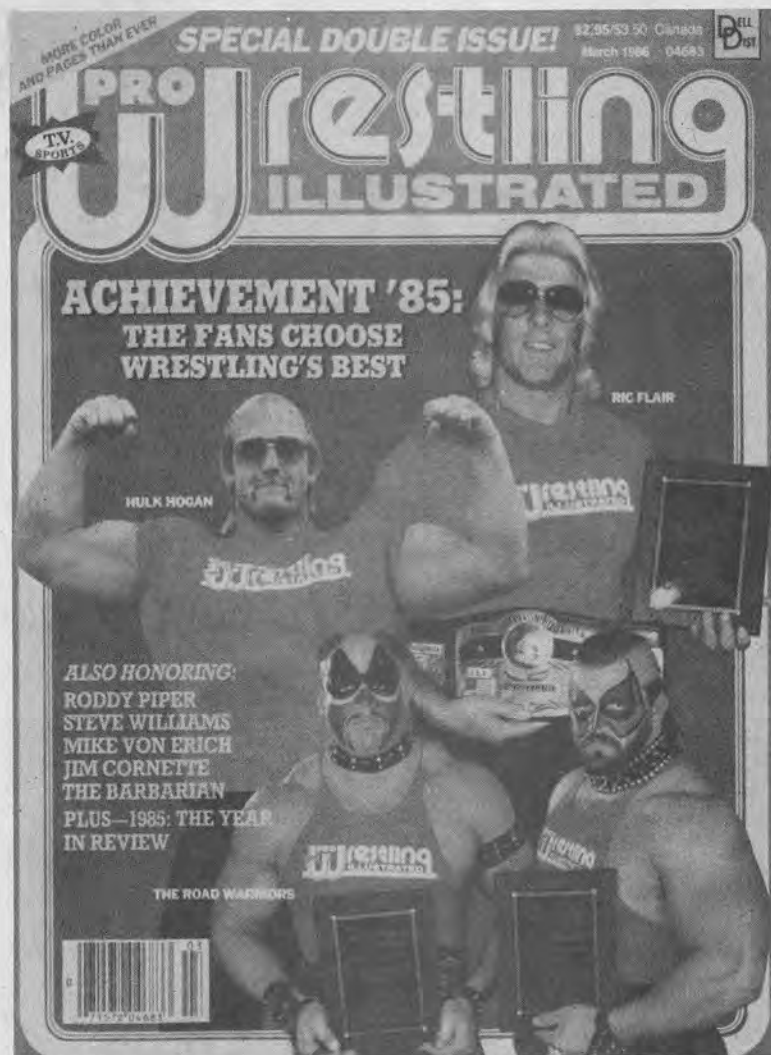
If this area doesn't deserve world title status, I don't feel Verne's Mickey Mouse federation does. I almost died laughing when Verne said, "We [the AWA] feel we have as good a talent pool as anyone in the world." What a joke!

JIM DUSTIN
Johnstown, NY

ORNDORFF WAS RIGHT

I'll bet most wrestling fans will put Paul Orndorff near the top of their
(Continued on page 50)

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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 49)



Paul Orndorff made a great career move by severing his ties with WWF champion Hulk Hogan, writes Jeff Sharkey.

most hated list because of what he did to Hulk Hogan on *WWF Championship Wrestling*. Well, I think that there have been a lot of factors that led to this parting of ways between Hogan and Orndorff.

Hogan tried before the match to offer excuses to Orndorff as to why the match wasn't set up earlier, but that didn't seem to satisfy Orndorff, and I'm not satisfied either. Hogan obviously didn't patch up the differences between them, and now Hogan looks to have another man breathing on him, itching for a title match.

As reported in the September 1986 issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Orndorff's career was stagnating. Now he may get title shots, and his career will be rejuvenated. As far as I am concerned, that makes him a candidate for Most Improved Wrestler of the Year. Having the nerve to break away from Hogan puts him in line for Inspirational Wrestler of the Year as well! As he said weeks before turning on Hogan, the old Mr. Wonderful is back.

There's only one problem. I can already hear cries of "Paula, Paula."

JEFF SHARKEY
Hortonville, WI

WORLD CLASS, UWF TOPS!

I'm currently stationed in San Antonio, although I'm originally from Baltimore. I've been following wrestling since the age of nine and never before have I seen so many different happenings in this sport.

Here in San Antonio, I catch all types of wrestling on the tube: WWF, NWA, World Class, UWF, and AWA. Everything from Terry Gordy winning the UWF tournament to Rick Rude's loss of the World Class title. I have to say that World Class and UWF are pretty exciting. I grew up with WWF and later NWA/AWA cards at home and never saw anything else. But the WWF never had as much action.



It is unlikely that a WWF fan will ever get to see a barbed wire match, such as this UWF battle between The Shepherders and The Fantastics.

I saw The Fantastics vs. The Shepherders in the October 1986 issue of *Inside Wrestling*. A barbed wire match, never in the WWF. Even UWF telecasts put a live WWF card to shame. Bill Watts, the man behind the UWF, gets into it. Vince McMahon never takes off his sportcoat. I'd love to see the WWF wrestlers in the hands of UWF matchmakers. Adrian Adonis vs. Junkyard Dog in a barbed wire match. Vince, get on the bandwagon. You have the stars. Let's see some action.

STEVE WAGENHEIM
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ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

(Continued from page 35)



It's the third and deciding fall and Jim Cornette is helpless to stop Rick Morton from small-packaging Dennis Condry as The Rock 'n' Roll Express regain the NWA World tag team championship from The Midnight Express.

cannisters of bottled water.

"Nothing can top the feeling we had after we beat the Koloffs the first time for the title," he said, then tagged off to his partner Morton, who continued the thought, "but this comes very close.

"This one was redemption," Morton went on. "We weren't expected to defeat the Koloffs and we did. That alerted everybody to the fact that, hey, these guys might be for real. After we beat the Russians the second time, I think everyone took us seriously."

"But after losing to Cornette," Gibson interrupted back, "the same old criticism popped up again. The Rock 'n' Roll Express is too small. They're no good. They were lucky against the Russians. So tonight was important. This is one title we mean to hang on to for a while.

"But until the next match, doggone it, let everyone have a party!"

When the most popular tag team in the world invites you to celebrate, one hasn't many choices. Although Morton and Gibson toasted with water ("we're always in training"), the guests, among them hundreds of friends, fans, family, and crashers, enjoyed their largess in

the form of an endless sushi bar, barbecued steak and chicken, cold cuts, and enough champagne to float the Queen Mary.

"This is what success is about," Morton beamed. "And what fun would it be if we couldn't share it with our loved ones?"

If Morton and Gibson truly wanted to share their success with *all* their loved ones, than they would need to rent out the New Orleans Superdome and cater a party for two million. Never in the history of professional wrestling has a team so quickly soared to the top of the sport—and galvanized the hearts and imagination of an entire country.

The typical Rock 'n' Roll Express fan? There is no such animal. Although the core of their support is unquestionably composed of the famed "teenybopper," the pair's popularity is spread equitably across all age groups, which makes their matches as much a cultural event as they are athletic contests.

Teenagers cheer alongside senior citizens donning headbands. Middle-aged couples root together, while their chil-

(Continued on page 54)

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June 1982/COLOR PINUP: Nick Bockwinkel. **Adonis & Ventura**, Snuka, Patera, Flair.

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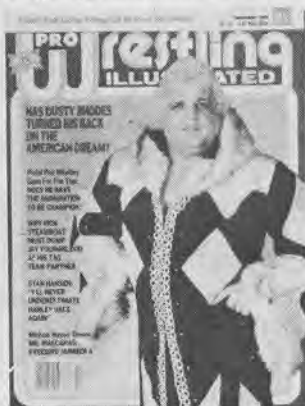
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January 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ken Patera. **Rick Steamboat**, Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

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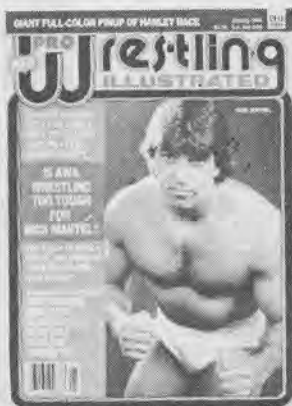
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JANUARY 1984

January 1984/COLOR PINUP: Harley Race. **Rick Martel**, Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

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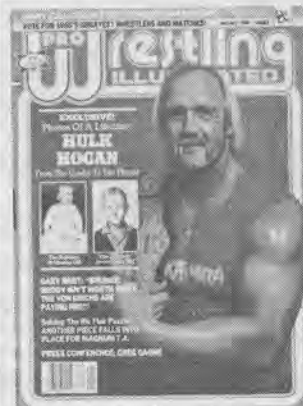
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ROCK 'N' ROLL

(Continued from page 52)



The party begins! Rick Morton holds both
belts high in jubilation and celebrates with
The Rock 'n' Roll Express' beloved fans.

dren scream their support. Morton and
Gibson's energetic appeal reaches out
to all age groups, to every segment of
society.

And their popularity does not seem
to be predicated upon success, al-
though their triumphs this year have
certainly not hurt them. "After we lost
to The Midnight Express," Gibson ex-
plained, "I swear to God our fan mail
picked up. People wrote and pledged
their support. People told us how they
cried when we lost. I'm not just run-

ning my mouth when I say that without the tremendous support from our fans, we wouldn't be in the position we are today."

"You can bet on that," agreed Morton. "Myself and Robert are tuned in to the cadences of the crowd. When they start cheering for us and repeating our name, it's like a double-dose of adrenaline. We are ready to rock and roll then. Ain't nothing can stop us."

Of course, that doesn't stop teams like the Russians, the Andersons, and even The Midnight Express from trying.

"The competition in the NWA is unbelievable," Gibson said. "Even when we didn't have the titles, it seemed that everyone was gunning for us. Undoubtedly, they were jealous of that fact that we had all the fans behind us. Now that we have the titles as well, we have to be prepared for the onslaught."

And they can rest assured that even if they lose the belts, they will never lose their fans. ☐

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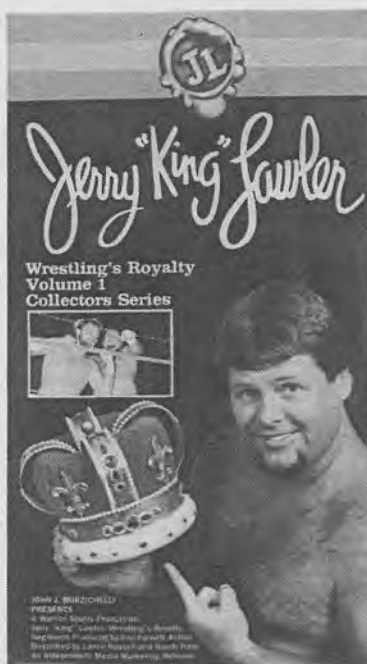
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DRESSING ROOM

(Continued from page 10)

June 29, 1986—Nick Bockwinkel wins by default over Stan Hansen (wins AWA World title). There are three schools of thought here. 1—Hansen should not have been stripped of the title; 2—Hansen should have been stripped of the title, but the new champion should have been determined in a tournament; 3—The AWA was correct in stripping Hansen of the title and awarding it to the scheduled challenger, Bockwinkel. To me, there is only one logical solution—number 2. To allow Hansen to keep the belt would have set a precedent that would allow the champion to pick and choose his challengers—and put the screws to the fans who paid their way into the arena to see a title match. To select Bockwinkel as the champion is absurd. He claims he earned the title because he scared Hansen away, but even he knows better. Hansen's leaving the McNichol Arena that night had nothing to do with whom he was scheduled to wrestle. There had to be other problems that we do not yet know. Assuming that to be true, it is conceivable that Jimmy "The Iron Duke" Doo would have been declared champion if he had been lucky enough to be the challenger that night.

July 26 and August 9, 1986—Ric Flair loses to and then defeats Dusty Rhodes (loses and regains NWA World title for the fourth time). Point number one: Dusty Rhodes didn't defeat Ric Flair; the law of averages did. Given as many chances to win the title as Dusty was given, Randy Mulkie could have won the championship. I like Dusty a lot, but I think even he would have to admit that he was given far too many title shots. Point number two: Ric Flair didn't defeat Dusty



Ric Flair gets down on his knees and begs Dusty Rhodes to show him mercy. Of course, Rhodes would not comply. And finally, after so many chances, The American Dream captured the NWA World title. His reign would last two weeks.

Rhodes; Tully Blanchard and J.J. Dillon did. Blanchard and Dillon attacked Rhodes two nights before Dusty would lose the title to Flair. Rhodes, who would sooner quit the sport than disappoint his fans, wrestled Flair despite a serious injury to his left knee. It's too bad. Dusty defeated Flair five times in his two weeks as champion. It would have been interesting to see how many tries it would have taken for Flair to win it back fairly.

August 16, 1986—The Rock 'n' Roll Express defeat The Midnight Express (win NWA World tag team title). I honestly did not believe that Rick Morton and Robert Gibson could defeat Bobby Eaton and Dennis Condrey, as long as the champions had Jim Cornette in their corner. It's not that I don't think the Rock 'n' Rollers are superb athletes, and it's certainly not that I think Cornette is any kind of brilliant strategist. It's simply that Cornette finds a way to—well . . . serve up trouble. I thought the Rock 'n' Rollers would have to have someone in their corner to keep Cornette in check. Well, it turns out they did—the fans. The R&R fans at the Philadelphia Civic Center were so loud in their support that they completely rattled their competition. It's common knowledge that the Mid-

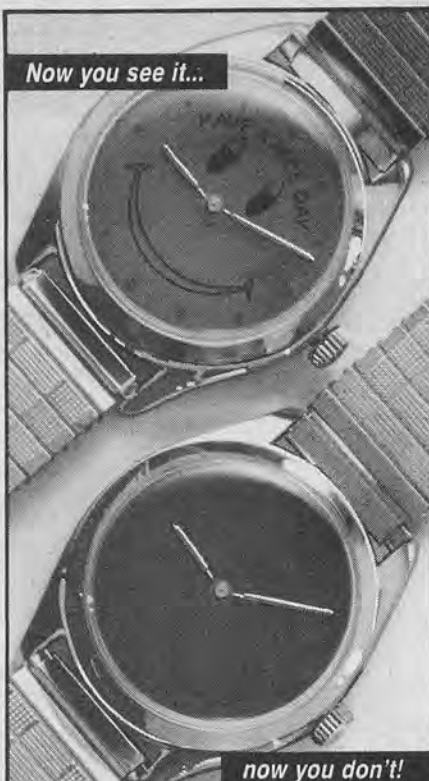
nights can be flustered. Usually, they will be calmed down by their manager. But not this time. Cornette was of no use to his team. Good job, fans.

August 17, 1986—Nikita Koloff defeats Magnum T.A. (wins best-of-seven U.S. title series). The talk of this office the day after the tournament concluded was how great Nikita Koloff was, how he proved his superiority over Magnum by winning four out of seven matches. Bull! Magnum was the superior wrestler. He would have won the series in six if not for the officiating of Tommy Young, who hustles more than any referee in the sport but always seems to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Nikita is good. Magnum is better. And Tommy Young better slow down before he hustles his way into preliminary matches.

August 26, 1986—Sgt. Slaughter is stripped of the Americas title. No complaints here, President Blackburn. Slaughter has been wrestling primarily in the NWF and has neglected the Americas title. Hopefully, the AWA will put the belt up in a tournament and not arbitrarily award it.

Six major title changes in 101 days. I'm sure there is more to come. Watch out, Hulk! ☐

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SCOTT HALL

(Continued from page 31)

what they need to survive in the ring. But out of the ring, most of the guys are all right. They're family men.

"I've never taken a public platform on any issue, but this time I can't be silenced. Col. DeBeers is in deep trouble. His value system is in need of overhaul. I'm going to send him on a long vacation so he'll have the time to think. I just hope all of his doctors and nurses are black."

For Hall, this match, against a wres-



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ler of DeBeers' formidable dimensions, may prove to be his biggest yet. Should he fulfill his prognostication and defeat DeBeers, then a title shot against Nick Bockwinkel should not be long in the offing.

But as he's repeated several times, this match isn't for professional reasons. "This one is purely personal." □

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September 1979/Flair-McDaniel, Garvin, Ladd, Rhodes.
February 1980/Rhodes-Funk, Race, Spoiler, Brisco.
May 1980/Koloff-Anderson, Brody-Spoiler, Graham, Andre.
June 1980/Graham, Patera, Rhodes, Lawler, Zbyszko.
July 1980/Bruno-Graham, Samoans, Star Wars 1980.
October 1980/Hogan, Flair, Wrestling II, Super D.
January 1981/Morales-Fuji, Zbyszko, Thornton, Keirn.
March 1981/SPECIAL EDITION—Results of 1980 Fan Awards Poll
April 1981/Atlas, Flair, Moondogs, Wrestling II.
June 1981/Morales-Khan, Lawler, Slater, Piper.
August 1981/Freebirds, Mascaras, Wrestling II, Brisco.
September 1981/Backlund-Mosca, Freebirds, Flair, Rich, Junkyard Dog.

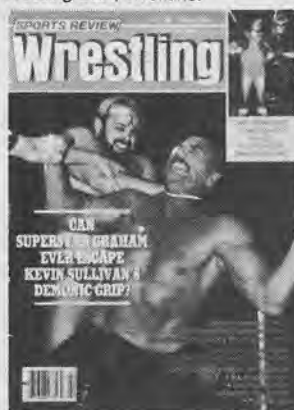


MARCH 1982

October 1981/Rich-Race, Hogan-Hansen, Moondogs, Freebirds, Putski-Koloff.
November 1981/Rhodes-DiBiase, Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.

December 1981/Muraco-Morales, Patera, Steele, Andre.
March 1982/Valentine, Brisco-Funk, Steele, Flair, Hayes.
April 1982/Spoiler, Idol-Hayes, Morales, Super D, Ladd.
May 1982/Rich-Flair, Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.
June 1982/Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka, Wrestlers rate each other.
July 1982/Steamboat-Idol, Albano, Rhodes, Patera.
August 1982/Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater, Rhodes, Valentine, Bockwinkel.
October 1982/Funk-Abdullah, Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.
November 1982/Piper, Abdullah, Saito, Von Erich, Mascaras.
December 1982/Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair, Albano, Humperdink.
January 1983/Rich, McDaniel-Valentine, Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.
February 1983/Flair-Race, Morales-Rose, Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.
March 1983/Flair-Bass, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat, Patera.
April 1983/Backlund-Graham, Briscos, Rhodes, Hogan, Samoans.
May 1983/Muraco, Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco, Von Erich.
June 1983/Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson, Brody, Sullivan, Baba.
July 1983/Valiant-Humperdink, Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.
October 1983/Martel-Valentine, Mulligan, Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.
November 1983/Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody, Slater, Backlund.
December 1983/Windham-LeDuc, Santana, Sullivan, Garvin.
January 1984/Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel, Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.
February 1984/Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen, Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.
March 1984/Starrcade '83, Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.
April 1984/Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki, Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.

May 1984/LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins, The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!
June 1984/Windham-Flair, Gilbert, Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.
July 1984/Flair-Gordy, Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA tag tourney.
August 1984/Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes, Von Erich, Faces Of Wrestling.
September 1984/Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.
October 1984/Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video, Atlas, Orange Bowl card.
November 1984/Von Erich & Billy Jack, Andre, Fab Ones, Summer Wars!
December 1984/Rich-Gilbert, Martel, Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class.
January 1985/Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund, Fabulous Ones, Pro Wrestling USA, Valentine.



FEBRUARY 1985

February 1985/Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts, Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.
March 1985/Starrcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloffs, 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.
April 1985/Von Erich-Blackwell, Haynes-Barr, Hart, Irwins, 1984 in Pictures, Blair.

May 1985/Albano, Freebirds-Flair, Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas.
June 1985/Pro Wrestling U.S.A., Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.
July 1985/Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches, Backlund, Snuka.
August 1985/Flair-Nikita, Orndorff, Slaughter, Parade of Champions II.
September 1985/Adams-Von Erich, Orndorff, Sawyer, Kamala, Barr, Atlanta, Steamboat.
October 1985/Martel-Hayes, Richter, Savage, Adams, T.A., Warriors.
November 1985/Freebirds-Warriors, Mid-South, Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.
December 1985/Hogan, Zbyszko-Martel, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.
January 1986/Savage-Santana, Abdullah, Humongous, Von Raschke, Comiskey Park, Taylor.
February 1986/Junkyard Dog, Rude, Patrick, Garvin, Reed, Datebook.
March 1986/Starrcade '85, Ventura, Windham, Sunshine, Slaughter.
April 1986/Savage-Hogan, Martel-Hansen, 1985 in Pictures, Warriors, DiBiase.
May 1986/Sammartino, R&R Express, Sunshine-Hyatt, Slater, Devastating Holds, Hall & Hennig.
June 1986/Hogan-Muraco, Midnight Express, Freebirds, Battle of Belts II.
July 1986/Orndorff-Piper, Blanchard-T.A., Matches of '80s, Shepherders, Bockwinkel, Bulldogs.
August 1986/Crockett Cup Tourney, Jake Roberts, Midnight Rockers, Von Erichs, Wrestling II.
September 1986/Bulldogs, Blanchard-Gibson, Lugar, Dundee, first UWF title tourney.

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LEX LUGAR

(Continued from page 44)



Lugar almost seems bored with his dominance over Kendo Nagasaki. He thirsts for the stiffer competition, but he must travel to find it.

world. And if he doesn't get out there soon, his own abilities will rust like a car left out in a Florida hurricane."

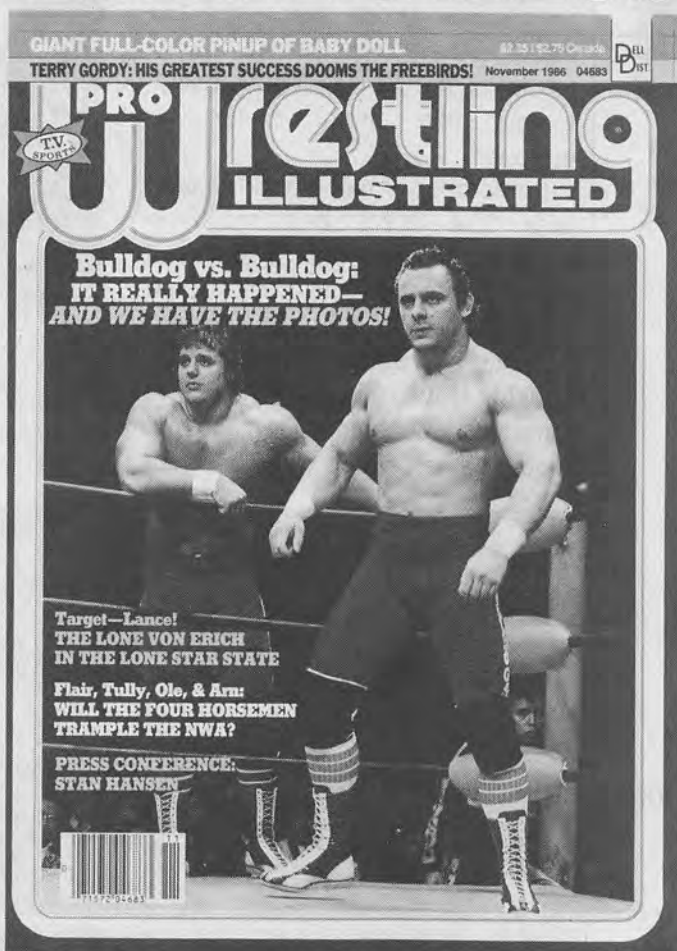
Lugar himself is puzzled about the uproar his career strategies have raised. "When Flair came down to Florida," he said, "everyone told me not to wrestle him, that I was taking too much of a chance. Even Flair took me aside before the match and warned me that I was making the same mistake a lot of young rookies were making. He told me a kid my age had no business fighting for a world championship.

"I could tell he was trying to psych me out. I threw him out of my dressing room. Then I went out and kicked his can across the ring.

"After I was brought back to my dressing room after taking him apart in the first fall, those same people came over to me and said, 'Knew you could do it Lex,' and 'Good job, Lex.' What a bunch of butt-kicking morons.

"I know what's right for Lex Luger. Don't worry about me. When the time is right, I'll be at center stage with that belt around my waist. Not a minute too soon or a minute too late. And that you can bet on."

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HOGAN VS. ADONIS

(Continued from page 37)

heart of the matter, the basic fact that the recent series of matches between Adonis and Hulk were an embarrassment, a disgrace to the great sport of professional wrestling. These matches should have never taken place and the damage they've caused to the integrity of the WWF World heavy-weight title might never be undone.

Remember what we're dealing with. The WWF belt has long been considered one of the most desired prizes in the sport. Some of the greats of the game, Bruno Sammartino, Pedro Morales, Bob Backlund, Ivan Koloff, Stan Stasiak, Superstar Graham, Ivan Koloff, wore the belt proudly around their



Here's Hulk Hogan's idea of catching a tiger by the tail (above) as he hurls Jimmy Hart. Adrian Adonis' fate is no more favorable (below).



waists. Despite some of their tactics, these men wrestled for the love of wrestling and respected the sanctity of the title.

Their opponents would never dare walk into the ring dressed in drag. A title shot was not a laughing matter, but a rare and hard-earned opportunity to achieve a dream. Title challengers might have criticized the champion in the past, and chastised him before the match, but deep in their hearts, they harbored immense respect for the man who wore the belt.

So the WWF grants Adonis a shot at Hogan, which, in and of

itself, is not necessarily a disgrace since Adonis is ranked number six in the current ratings. But then Adonis makes a mockery of the entire event with his dress habits and actions. Then, the WWF and Hogan, in effect, condone his actions by continuing this ridiculous charade and allowing Adonis additional title shots. In fact, Adonis and Hogan signed for an entire series of matches!

"It's a joke," said a former champion who requested anonymity. "The WWF World heavy-weight belt means something. It's like winning the World Series or an Olympic gold medal. People

respect the belt and the champion has a responsibility to defend the title in a proper manner. I understand where Hogan might have objected to Adonis' behavior, but the way to deal with that is to ignore him. By wrestling him, you're giving him instant credibility and putting him on the same plane as the WWF champion. I'm ashamed!"

But the WWF, in typical fashion, was not ashamed. It promoted Hogan-Adonis just as it would any other match and seemed to embrace Adonis' style. Why shouldn't it? The WWF's policy is to strive for the unusual, no matter how tasteless it might be. Hogan-Adonis was a good way to make money, so it thought, so why worry about such incidentals as image and credibility?

Add to this the fact that the Adonis-Hogan matches themselves were not exactly memorable events. Adonis, pitifully out of shape, failed to pose even the slightest challenge to the much stronger Hogan, and in one match, at the Byrne Meadowlands Arena in New Jersey, he actually fled to the dressing room and was counted out. Apparently, the fans weren't thrilled, either. The following month, only 8,000 people showed up at the 20,000-plus seat arena to watch Hogan pin Adonis in a lumberjack match.

Eventually, even Hogan seemed put off by the spectacle. He entered into this series of matches hoping to teach Adonis what it means to be a real man, but finally realized that a person's ways can't be changed.

One has to wonder if Hogan or the WWF ever thought about the possibility that Adonis might pull off an upset and walk away with the title. He might paint the belt pink, like Adrian Street did to the Southeast title belt in the Continental Area. By contrast to the bright belt, it would be a dark day for professional wrestling. ☐

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Fall 1984
Color Poster: U.S.A. Honor Guard
(Slaughter, Martel, Hogan, Rhodes, Valiant, JYD & Steamboat)



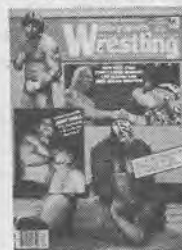
Winter 1984
Color Poster: Billy Jack



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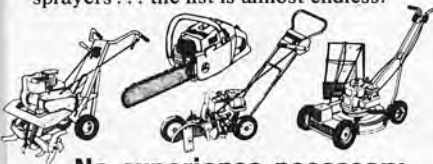
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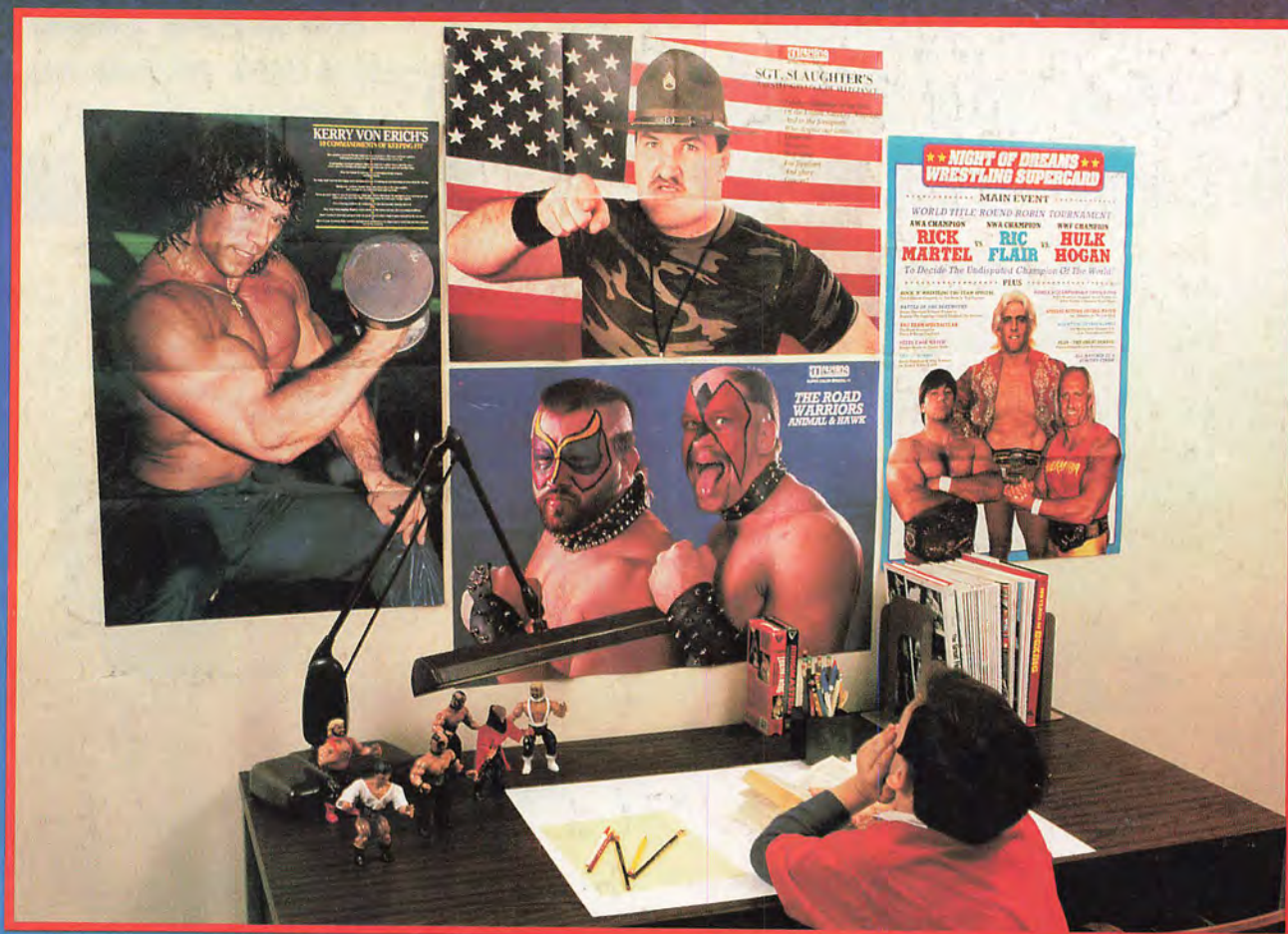


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